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Rep. Thomas Petrolati announces retirement from office

Seventh
Hampden
District
Rep.
Thomas
Petrolati
(D-Lud-
low)



WYATT ALOISIO
waloisio@turley.com

Seventh Hampden District Representative and House Chairman of Policy and Steering Thomas M. Petrolati has announced that he will not seek re-election to the role in 2020.

Petrolati, 62, was first elected in 1987. During his more than three decades in public office the long-time Hampden County Democrat has worked tirelessly on issues impacting the lives of the people in his district.

One of Petrolati's primary goals while in office was to support economic development in Western

Massachusetts. To that end, he worked with a group of local lawmakers to facilitate the transfer of a 5.4 -acre parcel of land in Belchertown from state to local control. The property, once the site of the historic Belchertown State School, had laid dormant for

numerous years and now serves as the home of the Belchertown Police Station, The Belchertown Senior Center, Christopher Heights Assisted Living Facility, and Easthampton Savings Bank

See **PETROLATI**, page 2 •

PRIMARY

Presidential early voting is next week

WYATT ALOISIO
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Early voting in Massachusetts' presidential primary begins Monday in Belchertown and Granby.

The Democratic, Republican, Green-Rainbow and Libertarian parties are holding elections to determine which candidates Massachusetts delegates will support for U.S. president in 2020. On Granby's ballot, voters will also be asked to make their selection for a state committee man and women for the First Hampden & Hampshire Senatorial District as well as their choice for representative for the Granby Town Committee.

Early voting polls will be open in Belchertown Town Clerk's Office at the Town Hall building, 2 Jabish St., Belchertown, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, Feb. 24-28.

In Granby, due to the fact the Town Clerk's Office located in the Town Hall Annex has limited parking spaces, and has limited standing room, it was determined by the Granby Board of Registrars and the Town Clerk to hold Early Voting at the "Carnegie Library" aka "The Old Public Library" located at One Library Lane. Voting hours at the Carnegie Library will be held also from Feb. 24-28 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. every day within this period with the exception of Thursday, Feb. 27 when hours will be from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Any registered voter in town may participate. Unlike absentee voting, this early voting period does not require a medical, religious or travel-based exemption.

See **VOTING**, page 13 •



Locals give thanks at historic landmark

WYATT ALOISIO
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BELCHERTOWN – The arrival of winter winds didn't stop a group of dedicated locals from turning out to the former Belchertown State School Administrative building last Friday to pay their respects to the site for its historic significance.

The first annual Heart Bomb event, hosted by the Belchertown State School Friends Association,



Katherine Anderson (left), President of the Belchertown State School Friends Association, Inc., and Friends member Courtney Keating stand amidst a display of valentines on the front steps of the former state school administrative building.

Inc., had nearly 100 valentines cards and posters, crafted by participants from far and wide, sent to the association, to be featured on display on the front steps of the administrative building in time for Valentine's Day.

"The cool part about the whole

process was having received so many valentines from people from all over," said Katherine Anderson, president of the Belchertown State School Friends Association, Inc. Anderson said that the valentines showcased important connections that the

state school had created between people, both those still living within Belchertown and those who now live away from the area.

Several days prior the association hosted a creation station in

See **HEART**, page 13 •

EDUCATION

Belchertown, Granby receive grants for school programs

KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
Correspondent

School programs in both Belchertown and Granby have recently received funding through the Massachusetts Cultural Council's Stars Residency Award.

The Stars Residency Award supports three-day plus in-school residencies in the arts, sciences, and humanities with a cultural

partner. Belchertown has received a \$5,000 grant; Granby has received \$1,800.

"The Massachusetts Cultural Council is responsible for crucial programming in western Massachusetts," said Senator Eric P. Lesser. "These residencies allow for school-aged kids to be exposed to new and creative ways of thinking. Cultural development is economic development

and these types of classes positively impact the classroom and community."

Belchertown's grant funding will go to Swift River Elementary School for the From Page to Stage program. Page to Stage features comprehensive literacy through the arts for a school residency in arts integration with Enchanted Circle Theater.

Swift River Principal Robert

Kuhn said the program adapts a children's book into a play, allowing the students to create original songs and express their creativity.

"It has been very well received; the kids absolutely love it," he said. "The kids have a feeling that what they're doing is really important and exciting. They are making real-world connections

See **GRANTS**, page 10 •



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OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$120, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

COMMUNITY

CW MARS announces record one million ebook and audiobook checkouts in 2019

CW MARS achieved a record-breaking one million digital book checkouts in 2019, a milestone for this library consortium consisting of 149 member libraries, including the Clapp Memorial Library in Belchertown. This accomplishment illustrates the continued growth and importance of library lending of ebooks and audiobooks along with the creative ways libraries have served their communities with digital services. CW MARS is one of 73 systems around the world – including standalone libraries and consortia – that surpassed one million checkouts through Rakuten OverDrive, the leading digital reading platform and its award-winning app Libby.

“OverDrive demand and checkouts continue to grow,” said Jeanette Lundgren, Executive Director at CW MARS. “When we first offered our OverDrive collection in 2005, it took over nine years to reach our first million circulations. In 2018 we had over 1 million check-outs in one calendar year and in 2019 we reached one million checkouts in 9 months!” Sheila McCormick, Director of the Clapp Memorial Library, added “While the popularity of print titles is not going to be surpassed by digital titles any time soon, demand for our Overdrive collection of audiobooks and ebooks grows every year.”

CW MARS is a diverse multi-type library consortium made up of 149 member libraries located in Central and Western Massachusetts. It is the largest of nine library consortia in Massachusetts, with a membership made up of academic, public, and special libraries of all sizes.

CW MARS libraries have been providing readers 24/7 access to ebooks and audiobooks for several years. In 2019, the

highest-circulating title across both formats CW MARS readers borrowed through OverDrive was “Where the Crawdads Sing” by Delia Owens.

The top 5 ebook titles borrowed through CW MARS’ digital collection in 2019: “Where the Crawdads Sing” by Delia Owens; “Educated” by Tara Westover; “Becoming” by Michelle Obama; “Nine Perfect Strangers” by Liane Moriarty; and “Little Fires Everywhere” by Celeste Ng.

The top 5 audiobook titles borrowed through CW MARS’ digital collection in 2019: “Becoming” by Michelle Obama; “Astrophysics for People in a Hurry” by Neil DeGrasse Tyson; “Everything I Never Told You” by Celeste Ng; “Where the Crawdads Sing” by Delia Owens; and “Educated” by Tara Westover.

Named one of Popular Mechanics’ 20 Best Apps of the 2010s and one of PCMag’s Best Free Software of 2019, Libby seamlessly connects first-time users and experienced readers with the popular digital collections of libraries. Readers may browse the library’s digital collection, instantly borrow titles and start reading or listening for free with a valid library card.

Readers in central and western Massachusetts just need a valid CW MARS library card to access digital books from CW MARS’ OverDrive-powered digital collection. Readers can use any major device, including iPhone, iPad, Android and Windows. All titles will automatically expire at the end of the lending period and there are no late fees. Readers can also download titles onto Libby for offline use.

Stop in or visit <https://www.clapplibrary.org/e-library/> to get started borrowing ebooks and audiobooks anytime, anywhere.

PETROLATI • from page 1

with further economic development opportunities on the horizon.

Among his other efforts while in office, Petrolati also played a key role in procuring a \$52 million bailout for the City of Springfield in addition to acquiring funding for the revitalization of the Convention Center and the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

In recent years Petrolati has led the effort to secure \$70 million in state funding for the redevelopment of the Ludlow Mills complex. The Mill #10 building, which opened in the fall of 2017, has been revitalized to include 74 new apartments for residents age 50 and older. Next door, current efforts by project leaders WestMass Area Development Corporation aim to see the 214,208-square-foot, 3-floor Mill #8 building converted to house 89 apartment units, including 17 affordable housing apart-

ments, and 40,000-square-feet of space on the first floor for commercial use.

“It’s been an honor and a privilege to serve the people of Hampden County,” said Petrolati. “I’d like to thank everyone for their support over the years. I ran for office because I wanted to make a difference. I couldn’t have done that without the backing of the voters.”

Petrolati gave his thanks to his wife, Kathy, and his daughters, Ashley and Dorothy, for their support. He acknowledged the dedication and hard work of longtime staff members Colleen Ryan, Ricky Burkot, Ellie Marshall, and the late Gary Ziencina.

As for what comes next, the lifelong Ludlow resident is looking forward to spending time with his three young grandchildren. Although he will be leaving office, Petrolati said he plans to continue to advocate for causes in the local area that remain important to him.

BELCHERTOWN MEETINGS



Monday, Feb. 24

- 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Early Voting at Town Hall.
- 5 p.m. - School Committee Curriculum & Instruction Subcommittee meeting at the Central Business Office.
- 7:15 p.m. - Board of Selectmen meeting at Town Hall.

Tuesday, Feb. 25

- 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Early Voting at Town Hall.
- 6 p.m. - Board of Assessors meeting at Town Hall.
- 7 p.m. - Planning Board meeting at Town Hall.

Wednesday, Feb. 26

- 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Early Voting at Town Hall.

Thursday, Feb. 27

- 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Early Voting at Town Hall.
- 5:30 p.m. - Council on Aging meeting at the Senior Center.

Due to the newspaper’s deadline, some meetings may have changed or are not listed here. Current meetings along with agendas are available at www.belchertown.org. Click on “Town Hall”, “Town Clerk” and the meetings are listed in the left hand column.

Nomination Papers available for Belchertown

BELCHERTOWN – Town Nomination Papers are now available at the Town Clerk’s Office for the Annual Town Election taking place on Monday, May 18, 2020.

The final day to take out Nomination Papers is Thursday, March 26 and the final day to submit Nomination Papers for certification will be Monday, March 30.

Fifty (50) signatures are required from Belchertown Registered Voters. Although 50 signatures is the minimum amount necessary, more than 50 signatures is encouraged in case any signatures cannot be certified.

Positions that are available for election and re-election this year include:

- Board of Assessors, incumbant Thomas A. Barry, 3-year term.
- Board of Health, incumbent Dana Burton, 3-year term.
- Board of Health, vacancy, 1 year term.
- Housing Authority, incumbent Nancy Delgado, 5-year term.
- Moderator, incumbent Joseph D. Bernard, 3-year term.
- Planning Board, incumbent Michael A. Hofler, 5-year term.
- School Committee, incumbent Heidi G. Gutekenst, 3-year term.
- School Committee, incumbant Michael J. Knapp, 3-year term.
- Board of Selectmen, incumbent Brenda Q. Aldrich, 3-year term.

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COMMUNITY



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Quabbin enters the Digital Age

BELCHERTOWN - On Sunday, Feb. 23 the Quabbin Visitor Center will present a free public program entitled "Quabbin Enters the Digital Age" by Department of Conservation and Recreation Archivist Sean Fisher. The program begins at 2 p.m. and is suitable for all ages.

As part of the Quabbin Reservoir Construction Project, thousands of photographs were taken of the properties purchased and removed by the Metropolitan District Water Supply Commission to build the reservoir. These photos are a fascinating window into the world of the Quabbin Valley as it existed prior to 1938. They have been scanned and are now available to the public to view online through the Digital

Commonwealth project.

Fisher will be joined by Massachusetts Water Resources Authority Project Intern Katy Purington who worked on the metadata that is part of the photograph collection.

The Quabbin Visitor Center is located in the DCR Quabbin Administration Building at the west end of Winsor Dam in Belchertown. Access to the Center is through the Main (West) Quabbin Park entrance on Route 9, three miles east of the Route 9/Route 202 intersection. Seating and attendance are limited and on a first come-first serve basis.

For further information regarding the program, please contact the Center at 413-323-7221.

Options in health care for all

BELCHERTOWN - Are you concerned about the future of reliable and affordable health care for all Americans?

Join the Belchertown Democratic Town Committee for a forum with a panel of health experts on

Saturday, Feb. 29 from 9 to 11 a.m. in the auditorium at Belchertown Town Hall, 2 Jabish St. Admission is free and light refreshments will be available.

A short film, "Fix It, Health Care at the Tipping Point", will be shown, followed by a panel discussion exploring various options - including the Affordable Care Act, Single Payer and Medicare for All -

and addressing your questions. The panel will include area medical and mental health care professionals.

The Belchertown Democratic Town Committee is committed to assuring full access to high quality, comprehensive and affordable health care as a basic human right. The group believes that no one in our nation should suffer because they are living with a pre-existing condition, struggling with a substance use disorder, or experiencing a mental health crisis, and are unable to access or afford needed medication or critical health care.

Little League registration enters final weeks

BELCHERTOWN - Registration remains open until Feb. 29 for Belchertown Little League's spring baseball season at <https://tshq.bluesombrero.com/belchertownll>.

All boys and girls between the ages 8 - 16 (as of Aug. 31, 2020), who reside in either Belchertown or Granby, are eligible to register for the season, which begins in late March and concludes in June.

The cost to take part is \$125 for the

Minors/Majors divisions (ages 8 - 12) and \$150 for Intermediate/Seniors travel divisions (ages 11 - 16).

The Majors and Minors teams play on the exclusive "Mini-Fenway" field, located at Chestnut Hill Community School in Belchertown. Managers and assistant coaches can also register at the same time.

For questions, please contact btownlittleleague2013@gmail.com.

Reps Carey and Mark to hold census 2020 Kickoff events

EASTHAMPTON - Representatives Daniel R. Carey (D- Easthampton) and Paul W. Mark (D- Peru) are holding two Census 2020 Kickoff events in the Second Hampshire District on Monday Feb. 24. Carey represents the Second Hampshire District which includes Easthampton, Hadley, South Hadley, and Precinct Two in Granby. Mark chairs the House Committee on Redistricting. Carey and Mark will be joined by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission's Complete Count Committee and the US Census Bureau to raise awareness for US Census Outreach efforts in Hampshire County.

"I'm grateful to Chair Mark for accepting my invitation to the Second Hampshire District," Carey said. "It is so important that everyone is prepared to participate in this year's census. Getting an

accurate count ensures that our cities and towns receive the financial support they deserve. I hope people will come out to these events to learn more."

Both events will be held on Feb. 24. First at the Easthampton Municipal Building, 50 Payson Ave., from 5 - 6 p.m. and then at the South Hadley Public Library, 2 Canal St., from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

The US Census, which is conducted every ten years, provides a snapshot of our nation that helps determine where to build new schools and businesses and how federal funding is distributed. With the 2020 Census less than two months away, outreach efforts are being conducted by state and local governments, businesses, and community organizations to raise awareness and educate the Commonwealth on the importance of the Census.

Quabbin Photo Group welcomes Marvin Moriarty for landscape discussion

BELCHERTOWN - The Quabbin Photo Group will hold its monthly meeting at the Hope United Methodist Church on Monday, Feb. 24, 2020 at 7 p.m.

This month's subject, "Experiencing Landscape through Landscape Photography" will be presented by Marvin Moriarty. Moriarty is a resident of Belchertown whose 40 year career with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provided him the opportunity to experience the many natural wonders of the United States. Deciding to explore those areas further after retiring in 2011 he took along a digital camera.

During his travels Moriarty realized the value of using a camera to better "see" and experience the many and varied landscapes this country has to offer. Ultimately, he expanded his travels to many international landscapes from

Alaska to Antarctica as well as Eastern Africa, Iceland, and Scotland.

His program will feature photos from the many landscapes he has visited and provide insights on how to best enjoy exploring the many wonderful landscapes the world has to offer.

All meetings of the Quabbin Photo Group are open to the public free of charge and are held at the Hope United Methodist Church located at 31 Main St. in Belchertown directly across from the town green and next to the post office.

Refreshments are served at 7 p.m. followed by the program at 7:30 p.m. If you would like further information, check out the group's website at www.quabbinphotogroup.com or contact our Publicity Chairwoman, Elaine Darr-Morton at 413-323-9212 or by email at darrmorton@charter.net.



Landscape Photographer Marvin Moriarty

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BELCHERTOWN - BUSY INTERSECTION LOCATION! - Level lot with over 200' of highway frontage at busiest business intersection in town. Currently a two family rental unit with easy access to free bus service, walk to shopping & restaurants - easy to rent. Great visibility & convenient access from east/west and north/south travel direction. **\$283,900** (72619216) **JANISE FITZPATRICK 413-219-2527**



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413-218-2704Brandy Lenzen
518-859-4280Heidi Welch
413-210-5016Jeannine Barry
413-330-8232Breanna Benoit
413-544-3719

■ COMMUNITY

Belchertown Democrats set caucus for Feb. 22nd

BELCHERTOWN - The Belchertown Democratic Committee has announced a public caucus to be held on Saturday morning, Feb. 22 to elect delegates to the Democratic State Convention. It will start at 10:30 a.m. in Belchertown Town Hall.

All registered Democrats are eligible to attend the caucus and run for state convention delegate. The caucus is also open to enrolled pre-registered Democrats over the age of 16. The convention itself will be held at the Tsongas Center at UMass Lowell on May 30. Seven elected delegates and four alternates will represent Belchertown.

Ken Elstein, Belchertown Democratic Chair, said, "The convention's main focus will be on nominating the candidates for the United States Senate. Senator Ed Markey and Representative Joe Kennedy are actively campaigning for endorsement." He added, "Attending the town

caucus is an excellent way to meet with town residents and discuss ways to have an impact on important issues and upcoming elections."

For more information, please write to KenElstein@gmail.com. For more information about add on delegates, please refer to www.MassDems.org.

Attention Belchertown High School Class of 1970

BELCHERTOWN - The Class of 1970 is planning a 50th Class Reunion social gathering on April 25, 2020 at the Grapevine Grill in Belchertown beginning at 5 p.m. The deadline for R.S.V.P. and payment (amount to-be-determined) for the appetizers is April 3, 2020.

Details are still being finalized with the venue, however, reunion organizers have decided on offering a selection of appetizers to offer attendees for a minimal cost. A full menu will also be available for those wishing to purchase a meal along with a cash bar.

A Facebook group page has been set up by Norma Vosburgh Lofland for anyone wishing to respond with questions. Type in "BHS Class of 1970" Reunion and if you haven't been added to the group you can ask to be added. Some classmates may not be on Facebook and organizers would appreciate any help getting this message out if you know someone who is not.

Direct any questions to Barb Menard Greene at Br123199@charter.net. A follow up article (and Facebook Group update) with final cost details will be published in a couple of weeks. The class of 1970 hopes to see everyone there!

Open burning season for Belchertown

BELCHERTOWN - The open air burning season for domestic tree trimming begins on Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2020 and runs through May 1, 2020. A written permit/registration number can be obtained from the Belchertown Fire Department, located at 10 North Main St. Permits and registration numbers may be obtained Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and on Saturdays, starting Jan. 18, from 9 a.m. to noon. There is a one time \$10 fee for the Jan. 15-May 1 burn permit season. The Belchertown Fire Department has requested that those seeking permits pat with the exact cash amount or with a check made payable to "Town of Belchertown" upon registering.

Due to recent changes in federal air quality standards, the MassDEP will only allow activation of burning permits for one day at a time, based on weather condition. Renewal requests left on the answering machine are invalid.

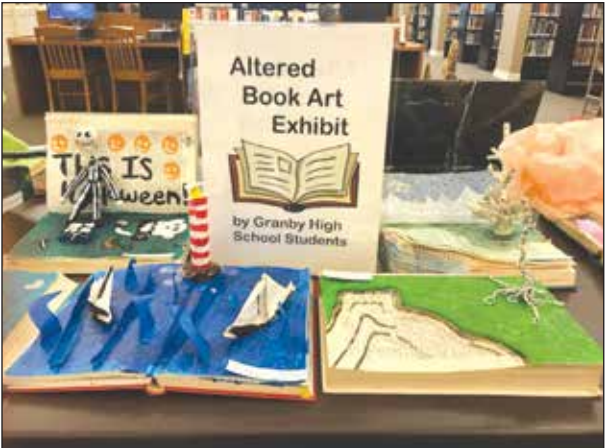
For more information, please contact the Belchertown Fire Department at 413-323-7571 with any questions.

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■ GRANBY



SUBMITTED PHOTOS JANICE MCARDLE

Altered Books on display at GFPL

GRANBY - Granby High School students recently crafted altered book artwork, which is now on display at the Granby Free Public Library. An altered book is a piece of art that has been created from an existing, printed book which is altered through different means and media. This generally means using the book's pages as a blank canvas on which to apply paint, collage and dimensional work. Students created this art under the guidance of art teacher, Elisabeth Stapert.



'Groundhog Fuel Assistance Fund' available to residents

GRANBY - Once again this winter heating season, the Granby Lions Club has established an Emergency Fuel Assistance Fund for Granby residents. This fund, titled the "Groundhog Fund", will enable residents of Granby to obtain needed assistance for fuel to help them through the next six weeks of winter.

The Lions Club Groundhog Fund began helping residents on Feb. 2 and will continue until March 16.

Residents who would like to apply for needed assistance area asked to complete an application and these applications are available in the Senior Center/Council of Aging Office at 10 West State St. in Granby.

Other residents or businesses who would like to contribute to this fund are asked to send their donation to the Granby Lions Groundhog Fund, P.O. Box 195, Granby, MA 01033.

The Granby Lions Club appreciates the continuing support that the community of Granby gives to club projects and activities.

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- Gala Apples** \$1.49^{lb.}

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Boars Head

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GRANBY

Granby Town Clerk Reminders

GRANBY – Presidential Primary will take place on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. If you have any doubts about your voter registration, please contact the office of Town Clerk Katherine Kelly-Regan at 413-467-7178.

Early Voting

Due to the fact the Town Clerk's Office located in the Town Hall Annex has limited parking spaces, and has limited standing room, it was determined by the Granby Board of Registrars and the Town Clerk to hold Early Voting at the "Carnegie Library" aka "The Old Public Library" located at One Library Lane.

Early voting is open to all voters voting at will and will take place at The Carnegie Library from Monday, Feb. 24 until Friday, Feb. 28, 2020. Early voting hours will be from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. every day with-in this period with the exception of Thursday, Feb. 27 when hours will be from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

You may also Early Vote by mail

by downloading the early voting application at www.MassEarlyVote.com, completing the application and mailing it to: Granby Town Clerk, 215 B West State St, Granby, MA 01033. Those who do so will have their ballot mailed out during the Early Voting period starting Feb. 24, 2020.

Absentee Voting: To take part in Absentee Voting, one must have one of the following reasons:

A registered voter who is absent from the voter's city or town during normal polling hours.

A registered voter with a physical disability.

A religious belief.

A non-registered voter who is absent from the state.

An active member of the armed forces or merchant marines, their spouse or dependent.

A person confined in a correctional facility or jail, except if by reason of felony conviction.

Absentee Voting ends on Monday, March 2 at 12 p.m. noon.

Census Reminders

A note of thanks to all the residents who responded to the 2020 Annual Town Census.

Second notices will be mailed out to those who have not responded starting in February. If you haven't mailed in your census please do so, and if you never received a census form call the town clerk's office.

2020 is a Big Election Year! Please return your Census to avoid any problems at the election polls.

A reminder to all registered voters, General Laws of Massachusetts mandate that failure to respond to this mailing shall result in the removal from the Active voting list and may result in removal from the voter registration rolls.

Please take the time to answer this very important mailing. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

For further questions please contact Granby Town Clerk Katherine Kelly-Regan by calling 413-467-7178.



SUBMITTED PHOTO, JANICE MCARDLE

Homemade is Heartfelt

GRANBY - Kids made some gorgeous Valentine's Day cards recently at the Granby Free Public Library to wow their loved ones with a homemade valentine. There's nothing like handmade to say "I love you!" Mia Smith (left - age 9) and her mom (right- Dina Smith both of Granby) got very creative as they took part in this year's activity.

Nomination Papers available for Granby

GRANBY - Any person interested in seeking elected office in Granby must take out nomination papers from the Town Clerk no later than March 26, 2020, in order to be placed on the May 18 ballot. Papers will be available for issuance starting on the week of Feb. 3.

Candidates must collect signatures of 35 or more registered voters and return the nomination papers to the Town Clerk's office by March 30.

Offices vacancies for the May 18, 2020 Town Elections include:

Select Board, one for three years; Board of Assessors, one for three years; Board of Health, one for three years; Planning Board, one for five years; School Committee, two for three years (each); Commissioner of Burial Grounds, one for three years;

Library Trustees, three for three years (each).

Nomination papers have been made available as of Monday, Feb. 3. The final day to obtain town nomination papers will be Thursday, March 26. Friday, March 27 at noon time will be the final day to file with Town Administrator for a private Warrant Article for the May 11 Annual Town Meeting. In- order for a private warrant article to appear on the Annual Town Meeting warrant, a petitioner must acquire ten (10) signatures of registered voters in the town.

Other dates of importance include Monday, March 30 as the final day to file town nomination papers with the Board of Registrars for certification and Monday, April 13 as the last

day the Board of Registrars will have the ability to file town nomination papers with the Town Clerk.

Wednesday, April 15 will be the last day to withdraw or object to town nomination papers and Tuesday, April 21 will be the last day to vote for the Annual Town Meeting & Annual Town Election.

Nomination papers for the Annual Town Election are available in the Town Clerks Office and may be obtained during regular office hours. Public office hours for the Town Clerk's office are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to noon.

The Town Clerks office is located at 215 B West State St. For any questions please call Town Clerk Kathy Kelly-Regan at 413-467-7178.

Attention: Granby Landowners

Percolation tests for land in Granby may be conducted only during the months of March and April. Any property requiring a septic system must have a successful percolation test prior to building. Percolation tests are valid for two years. A \$200 fee is due and payable prior to the percolation test.

Call Richard Bombardier at (413) 467-9886 to make an appointment.

Please call Board of Health office at (413) 467-7174 for more information.



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LAND

Lot 80 Jensen Belchertown 8.84 acres \$125,000 • Lot 42 Michael Sears, Belchertown 3.5 acres \$60k
Lot 44 Ware Road, Belchertown 2.19 acres \$100k

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Belchertown, Granby & Amherst SENTINEL

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1915

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OPINION

EDITORIAL

Eyes up, hands free

Beginning next week commuters will now have even more of a reason to set their cell phones aside when behind the wheel.

The Massachusetts Hands-Free Driving Law will officially take effect as of Sunday, Feb. 23, 2020. From then on until March 31, violators who are caught using their cell phones while driving will receive a verbal warning from law enforcement officials. As of April 1, however, those found guilty of the infraction will have a greater citation issued to them.

It is illegal in the commonwealth to compose or read texts, emails, social media, watch videos, or to use the camera function on cellular devices when behind the wheel on the car.

Beginning this spring drivers who break the new Hands-Free Driving Law will receive a fine of \$100 on their first offense. A second offense will mean an additional \$250 charge and will also require offenders to take a distracted driving education course.

A third and final offense will result in a penalty of \$500 which will be surchargeable to a driver's insurance.

Governor Charlie Baker made Massachusetts the 21st state in the nation to prohibit drivers from using cell phones in November of 2019, nearly a decade after the state banned texting while driving in 2010.

According to statistics provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in 2017 a total of 3,166 fatal motor vehicle accidents occurred nationwide as a result of distracted driving.

The 2018 Commonwealth of Massachusetts Highway Safety Annual Report lists a key demographic of offenders as drivers age 35 or younger largely due to cell phone and smartphone use. In the past 3 years these drivers have accounted for half of all distracted drivers in fatal crashes and nearly 60 percent of all drivers in a speed-related fatal crash.

The Safe Roads Alliance, a national organization with headquarters in Massachusetts dedicated to providing educational services to all drivers when it comes to driving safely, is looking to prepare drivers for what they need to do with the new law entering effect.

The new law prohibits use of a cell phone unless it is an emergency while allowing calls to be made in hands-free mode. Be sure that cell ones are affixed to the dashboard, center console, or windshield of a vehicle. Only one touch or swipe is allowed to activate GPS or to make or receive an emergency call as manual dialing a phone number or entering a GPS location is no longer allowed while driving.

Before you set out on your commute, program your GPS while stationary and make any calls or send text messages before hand. Be sure to let recipients of the messages know that you will be driving and unable to answer the phone.

Many phone manufacturers, such as iPhones, come with functions that can be enable to do not disturb while driving. For android phones, the downloadable app DriveMode will also allow for features such as incoming calls to be silenced and even will send automatic responses to let callers know you are driving.

Above all else the simplest and most effective way to prevent distracted driving mishaps is to put away your cell phone and keep your eyes on the roadway.

My One And Only

By Gloria Cartelli
Belchertown

My dream man had dark sparkling eyes
that sent me messages!
His hair answered to waves.
His form was slim, but healthy.
His voice was like a velvet song.
His whistle - a bird song!
His words were like pearls!
His heart was gentle and true!

My real man wore glasses,
His eyes had dimmed.
He was completely bald!
He had a pouch that was pleasant.
He could out burp any man!

His words were always gentle!
His wisdom know no bounds!
(He did marry me.)
His heart was ever true.

My real man was my dream man!



Color play on a winter's day

In this column I thought it would be fun to take a closer look at color. Personally, one of the very reasons I love to garden is because it gives me the opportunity to play with color. Perhaps you satisfy your passion for color by painting, quilting or another hobby besides gardening. Read on, there will be something useful here for you, too.

While we have to live with our color choices in permanent plantings such as perennial borders or shrub beds, we have an endless palette of plants to choose from for gardens or containers devoted solely to annuals, bulbs and fall plants. With the start of each new season we can once again let our creative juices run wild and change our color schemes as we see fit.

Just like the cook who instinctively knows what herb and how much of it to use to flavor a meal, color, for me, is intuitive. I'd like to think that I know what looks

nice with what without looking at a color wheel or reading some sort of explanation on the subject. Not every season do I "hit the ball out of the park" with my pairings, but most of the time I am satisfied. If you find your color combinations to be missing some zing, perhaps a lesson in color terminology that may help you broaden your brushstrokes.

First of all, grab a good gardening book from your collection and search out the color wheel. You can also go online and print one out. Having one on hand will make the terms I use easier to understand and no doubt get you "scheming." The complementary color scheme utilizes color opposites for the sharpest possible contrast. First, pick a color you'd like in your garden on the color wheel, say yellow for example. The color directly opposite yellow on the wheel

ON THE GARDEN



Roberta McQuaid

See GARDEN, page 7 •

In My Backyard

ELLENOR DOWNER

The Massachusetts Audubon Society reported a vesper sparrow in Hadley. The vesper sparrow is a fairly large sparrow about six inches long with a chunky body, a fairly small conical bill and a long, notched tail. Distinguishing features include a thin white eye ring, streaked breast and white outer tail feathers seen in flight. It is a brown sparrow with streaking.

Since it sings mostly in the evening, it got the name - vesper sparrow. Its song is throatier than the song sparrow. It usually begins with two clear notes, followed by two higher notes. It inhabits grasslands and fields across much of the northern United States and Canada.

Other western Mass. bird sightings

Other western Massachusetts bird sightings included two Lapland longspurs in Hadley, two buffleheads at South Hadley Canal Park, six common golden eyes at Cobin's Neck in Sheffield and two at the Stockbridge Bowl. People also reported a red-breasted merganser on South Pond in Southwick, a Merlin at Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary in Northampton, a varied thrush in Westhampton, a hermit thrush at Ashley Falls and Silvio O. Conte National Wildlife



Paula Ouimette, the author's daughter, drew this vesper sparrow.

Refuge and eight Savannah sparrows in Sheffield.

Central Massachusetts bird sightings

There were two lesser scaup seen at the Westborough Wildlife Management Area, a red-breasted merganser at the Wachusett Reservoir and four sand hill cranes in Lancaster. A hermit thrush was seen in Orange and 105 brown-headed cowbirds near Moore State Park in Paxton.

Cape Cod sightings

A western tanager continues at a feeder in Sandwich. There were also rare records of late-lingering warblers. They included a northern parula in South Orleans and a black-throated blue warbler in Wellfleet,

See BACKYARD, page 7 •

Turley Publications Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the editor should be 350 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources. Send letters to: Sentinel Editor Wyatt Aloisio, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 or via email to waloisio@turley.com. The deadline for submissions is Friday at 5 p.m.

Belchertown, Granby & Amherst SENTINEL

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1915

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Teens lead the charge for future programs

BELCHERTOWN - The Clapp Memorial Library is inviting teens in grades 7-12 to an upcoming "Teens Focus on the Future" focus group taking place later this month on Saturday, Feb. 29. Feedback and ideas discussed will be used to shape the future of teen programs and services at the Clapp Memorial

Library.

The focus group will take place from 10-11 a.m. and will feature free donuts. There will also be a door prize at both events for participants.

Space is limited, so teens are asked to register at the library circulation desk or by calling the library at 413-323-0417.

BACKYARD • from page 6

both at private feeders.

Bluebirds

A Ware woman emailed, "Up, until this year, we've always enjoyed our short, spring visits from the beautiful bluebirds. This year they were here in December and then in January and now showing us their beauty in February." She said, "Not just one or two or even three, the numbers are five to eight at a time. We have great seed and meal worms, but not caviar."

Bluebirds that visit feeders in the winter are a wonderful sight to behold. I had up to five bluebirds off and on in January. I have not seen them lately, although I continue to put out mealworms. Tufted titmice and

black-capped chickadees like mealworms as well.

Mealworms

I also give a handful to my chickens every morning. My Speckled Sussex hen is very fond of them and flies up to grab them out of my hand. All the members of my flock except one like them. The newest member of my flock, Miss Cluck Cluck, does not eat them. Miss Cluck Cluck does not live in the henhouse; she is a stuffed toy chicken of unknown breed that has a place of honor in my house. She was a birthday gift from three of my grandchildren.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505 or emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com.

GARDEN • from page 6

is violet. Other complementary color combinations are orange and blue and green and red. For an early spring planting try solid orange pansies with blue violas, beautiful!

The analogous color scheme is one in which colors lie next to one another within a 90-degree angle on the wheel. Trace your color wheel, fold it in half and in half again to have a "quarter pie." Position this ninety-degree angle over any three colors to achieve the analogous scheme. Yellow, orange and orange-red is a classic analogous combination, easily achieved by utilizing various types of marigolds in a summer garden.

A triadic color scheme is made from three colors that are the same distance from one another on the wheel. To find triads, it helps to think of the wheel as a clock. Just look for colors in the four, eight and 12 position; rotate the wheel to see all of your options. Red, yellow and blue is a commonly used triad. Picture double-flowered red and yellow tulips with an underplanting of blue hyacinth,

talk about drama!

In monochromatic color scheme, you basically design your garden around a single color. If you like pink, for example, you would choose pale pink flowers, deep pink flowers, and all the subtle hues in between. This scheme rarely disappoints. White gardens were all the rage a few years back. One of my favorite all white combinations is cleome, cosmos, bachelor's buttons, salvia farinacea and annual baby's breath. Nearly every flower type possible is covered and each one is white.

Has all this talk about color gotten you excited for the start of the season? It has me. Until then, I'll work on a new rug to satisfy my need for color play.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

■ POLICE LOGS

Belchertown Police

Editor's note: The following are brief explanations of select entries in the Belchertown Police log and arrests for the weeks of Feb. 5 through Feb. 12. The information was provided by a member of the police department based on the review of the detailed log summary. This feature is designed to provide context and explanation to some of the calls police respond to every day. Of the 359 calls police responded to, there were 12 incidents, 2 accidents, 2 arrest/summons and 19 citations.

ARRESTS/SUMMONS

Wednesday, Feb. 5

2:06 p.m. – A 38-year-old male Belchertown resident will be summoned to the Eastern Hampshire District Court on charges of plate number violation, operating an unregistered motor vehicle, operating an uninsured motor vehicle, and speeding. While conducting radar enforcement on State St., Ofc. Christopher Mayo registered a vehicle traveling 35 mph in a 20 mph school zone. After stopping the vehicle the driver informed Ofc. Mayo that the vehicle had just been purchased and still had an out-of-state title. A criminal citation was issued. The vehicle was towed from the scene and the license plates were subsequently seized and placed into evidence.

ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS

Wednesday, Feb. 5

8:40 a.m. – Det. Robert Mann conducted a follow up as part of an ongoing investigation regarding the larceny of funds from an individual.

3:45 p.m. – A motor vehicle crash occurred on George Hannum St. when a tractor trailer traveling west bound attempted to reverse and turn around to avoid a low underpass. The truck struck a light post at the edge of Hickory Hill and left the scene. The driver was unaware that property damage had occurred. Ofc. Jared Lavalley later located the driver and informed the property owner of the damages.

5:25 p.m. – Ofc. Jared Lavalley spoke with a Gold St. resident who informed police that their child's email account had been compromised with an unknown party operating in their child's name. No funds were realized

lost at the time and the party was advised to close the email account and monitor for strange activity. A report was filed.

Friday, Feb. 7

3:55 p.m. – Ofc. Jared Lavalley spoke with a party at the police station concerning a package that had either been delivered to an incorrect address of had been stolen. A report was filed.

4:32 p.m. – Sgt. Bruce Jenks and Det. Robert Mann were dispatched to Ledgewood Cir. to conduct a well-being check.

5:20 p.m. – Det. Robert Mann spoke with a resident concerning possible fraud activity. The party told police that they had received mail from National Grid stating that an account had been opened in their name in Rhode Island and that they owed outstanding bills. A report was filed. It is unknown at the time if it is a case of identity fraud or account issues.

8:52 p.m. – Ofc. Jared Lavalley spoke with an individual on Town Beach Rd. regarding interactions between their juvenile and other students.

Sunday, Feb. 9

10:24 a.m. – A resident contacted police to inform them of a motor vehicle accident that had occurred at the intersection of Jackson St. and Carriage Dr. A bumper with attached registration plates was found in the roadway at the location by officers. It was later determined that the operator of the vehicle had been arrested by state police overnight.

Monday, Feb. 10

9:24 a.m. – Ofc. Matthew Menard spoke with a Helen Ln. resident concerning possible fraud/identity theft. The resident reported that one or more parties had attempted to withdraw funds from bank accounts in other states. Funds were realized as having been taken as a result. A report was forwarded to the detective's division.

4:27 p.m. – Ofc. Jared Lavalley spoke with an individual concerning fraudulent activity that had occurred online regarding a craigslist ad for tickets purchased through a third-party app.

Tuesday, Feb. 11

9:04 a.m. – A motor vehicle crash occurred on Gulf Rd. when a vehicle slid off of the roadway as a result of icy weather conditions and struck a snow bank.

8:35 p.m. – Det. Robert Mann

and Ofc. Edward Oey were dispatched to State St. to assist Belchertown Fire and EMS.

Granby Police

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 172 calls for the week of Feb. 9 through Feb. 11. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. All information is provided by the Granby Police Department.

ARRESTS/SUMMONS

Friday, Feb. 7

10 p.m. - Zachary Nassif, 32, of 323 North Main St., Sunderland, was arrested on West State St. on a charge of operating under the influence of alcohol.

Monday, Feb. 10

12:30 p.m. - Ryan Sullivan, 35, of 38 Sequoia Dr., Feeding Hills, was arrested on East State St. on a warrant.

ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS

Friday, Feb. 7

7:24 a.m. - A 2 car motor vehicle crash occurred on East State St. No injuries were reported.

10 a.m. - A motor vehicle crash occurred at the intersection of Taylor St. and Truby St. in which a driver lost control of their vehicle driving off the roadway and striking a utility pole.

10:16 a.m. - A motor vehicle crash occurred on Amherst St. in which a driver lost control of their vehicle driving off of the roadway.

11:46 a.m. - A 2 car motor vehicle crash occurred at the intersection of Aldrich St. and Amherst St. No injuries were reported.

3:30 p.m. - A 2 car motor vehicle crash occurred on School St. No injuries were reported.

Monday, Feb. 10

3:32 p.m. - A motor vehicle crash occurred at the intersection of Porter St. and State St. when a tractor trailer truck struck a guard rail causing damage.

Tuesday, Feb. 11

8:17 a.m. - A motor vehicle crash occurred on Amherst St. when a vehicle struck a deer that had entered the roadway.



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School Lunch Menu

Week of Feb. 24 - Feb. 28

COLD SPRING SCHOOL

Breakfasts cost \$1, or \$.30 reduced. Lunches cost \$2.75, or \$.40 reduced. Milk is \$.40. No breakfast in the event of a delay. Ice cream is \$1. Lunch Grab & Go Options: All Grab & Go's come with veggies, fruit and milk. Monday: whole grain cereal, 4 oz. yogurt, whole grain snacks, Fruitables veggie juice, sweet potato bites; Tuesday: whole grain bagel with cream cheese and jelly, 4 oz. yogurt, cheese stick, sugar snap peas; Wednesday: maple burst whole grain pancakes, 4 oz. yogurt, string cheese, Fruitables veggie juice, cucumber coins; Thursday: turkey and cheese on whole grain bread, whole grain chips, roasted broccoli, three bean salad; Friday: Whole grain muffin, yogurt, whole grain snacks, cinnamon sugar roasted chick peas, Fruitables veggie juice

Monday, Feb. 24: Breakfast – Small whole grain bagel, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Tuna boat, steamed carrots, cucumber coins, assorted fruit, and milk.

Tuesday, Feb. 25: Breakfast – Whole grain cereal, string cheese, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Soft beef taco w/cheese & salsa, fiesta black bean salad, steamed green beans, assorted fruit, and milk.

Wednesday, Feb. 26: Breakfast – Egg & cheese sandwich, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Half grilled cheese, smiley fries, tomato soup, assorted fruit, and milk.

Thursday, Feb. 27: Breakfast - Whole grain cereal, yogurt, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Popcorn chicken, mashed potato, chicken gravy, corn, rice krispie treat, assorted fruit, and milk.

Friday, Feb. 28: Breakfast – Grape filled crescent, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Whole grain cheese pizza slice, Fruitables veggie juice, crispy roasted chickpeas, assorted fruit, and milk.

SWIFT RIVER SCHOOL

Breakfasts cost \$1, or \$.30 reduced. Lunches cost \$2.75, or \$.40 reduced. Milk is \$.40. No breakfast in the event of a delay. Lunch Grab & Go Options: All Grab & Go's come with veggies, fruit and milk. Monday: whole grain cereal, 4 oz. 100 percent juice, 4 oz. yogurt, whole grain snacks, 2 oz. sunbutter; Tuesday: whole grain bagel with cream cheese and jelly, 4 oz. yogurt, cheese stick; Wednesday: maple burst whole grain pancakes, 4 oz. yogurt, string cheese; Thursday: turkey and cheese on whole grain bread, whole grain chips; Friday: sunbutter and jelly Uncrustable, cheese stick, whole grain snacks.

Monday, Feb. 24: Breakfast – Mini whole grain donuts, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Tuna boat, steamed mixed vegetables, cucumber coins, assorted fruit, and milk.

Tuesday, Feb. 25: Breakfast – Whole grain cereal, hard boiled egg pops, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Soft beef taco w/cheese & salsa, fiesta black bean salad, steamed green beans, assorted fruit, and milk.

Wednesday, Feb. 26: Breakfast – Whole grain sweet potato swirl roll, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Half grilled cheese, smiley fries, tomato soup, assorted fruit, and milk.

Thursday, Feb. 27: Breakfast – Whole grain cereal bar, string cheese, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Popcorn chicken, mashed potato, chicken gravy, corn, rice krispie treat, assorted fruit, and milk.

Friday, Feb. 28: Breakfast – Mini maple whole grain pancakes, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch - Whole grain cheese pizza slice, Fruitables veggie juice, crispy roasted chickpeas, assorted fruit, and milk.

CHESTNUT HILL COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Breakfasts cost \$1, or \$.30 reduced. Lunches cost \$2.90, or \$.40 reduced. Milk is \$.40. No breakfast where there is a delay. Lunch Grab & Go Options: All Grab & Go's come with veggies, fruit and milk. Monday/Wednesday/Friday: whole grain cereal, 4 oz. yogurt, whole grain snacks, 2 oz. sunbutter; Tuesday/Thursday: dip sticks with assorted fresh fruit, veggie sticks with dip, 2 oz. sunbutter or hummus, whole grain snacks. Everyday salad meal: garden salad with choice of dressing, whole grain snacks, cheese stick, 4 oz. yogurt.

Monday, Feb. 24: Breakfast – Mini whole grain donuts, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Tuna boat, oven fries, steamed carrots, assorted fruit, and milk.

Tuesday, Feb. 25: Breakfast – Whole grain cereal, yogurt, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Crunchy beef tacos, fiesta black bean salad, steamed green beans, assorted fruit, and milk.

Wednesday, Feb. 26: Breakfast – Egg & cheese sandwich, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Toasted cheese on whole wheat bread, garden salad, tomato soup, assorted fruit, and milk.

Thursday, Feb. 27: Breakfast – Whole grain cereal bar, hard boiled egg pops, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Chicken Bowl – popcorn chicken, potato, corn, gravy, rice krispie treat, assorted fruit, and milk.

Friday, Feb. 28: Breakfast – Fruity oatmeal, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Pizza Friday – Variety of cheese/specialty pizzas, Fruitables veggie juice, crispy roasted chickpeas, assorted fruit, and milk.

JABISH BROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Breakfasts cost \$1, or \$.30 reduced. Lunch costs \$3.15, or \$.40 reduced. Milk costs \$.40. Breakfast is available every day and includes power protein items like hard boiled eggs, fruit and

yogurt smoothies, and string cheese. Chicken patty sandwich or burger, fresh whole grain pizza, made to order premium deli, and fresh salad available daily.

Monday, Feb. 24: Breakfast – Mini whole grain donuts, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Pulled pork on whole wheat roll, oven fries, steamed carrots, assorted fruit, and milk.

Tuesday, Feb. 25: Breakfast – Whole grain cereal, power protein item, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Crunchy beef tacos, fiesta black bean salad, crunchy pepper strips, assorted fruit, and milk.

Wednesday, Feb. 26: Breakfast – Egg & cheese sandwich, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Toasted cheese on whole wheat bread, garden salad, vegetable soup w/beans, assorted fruit, and milk.

Thursday, Feb. 27: Breakfast – Whole grain cereal bar, power protein item, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Chicken Bowl – popcorn chicken, potato, corn, gravy, assorted fruit, milk, and rice krispie treat.

Friday, Feb. 28: Breakfast – Zucchini bread, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Three cheese calzone, roasted broccoli, veggie platter, assorted fruit, and milk.

BELCHERTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

Breakfasts cost \$1, or \$.30 reduced. Lunch costs \$3.15, or \$.40 reduced. Milk costs \$.40. Breakfast is available every day and includes power protein items like hard boiled eggs, fruit and yogurt smoothies, and string cheese. Build your own yogurt parfait, chicken patty sandwich or burger, oven fries, whole grain pizza, made to order premium deli, and fresh salad available daily.

Monday, Feb. 24: Breakfast – Mini whole grain donuts, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Pulled pork on whole wheat roll, cole slaw, Rainbow fruit & veggie bar, and milk.

Tuesday, Feb. 25: Breakfast – Whole grain cereal, power protein item, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Taco Bar – Beef soft tacos w/salsa, cheese, lettuce, Rainbow fruit & veggie bar, and milk.

Wednesday, Feb. 26: Breakfast – Cinnamon roll, power protein item, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Toasted cheese on whole wheat bread, tomato soup, Rainbow fruit & veggie bar, and milk.

Thursday, Feb. 27: Breakfast – Whole grain cereal bar, power protein item, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Chicken Bowl – popcorn chicken, potato, corn, gravy, Rainbow fruit & veggie bar, rice krispie treat, and milk.

Friday, Feb. 28: Breakfast – Two whole grain pop tarts, power protein item, assorted fruit, milk; Lunch – Three cheese calzone, roasted broccoli, rainbow fruit & veggie bar, and milk.

CLASSROOM calendar

Tuesday, Feb. 25

- School Committee Meeting, CHCS Library, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 26

- SRE, School Banking Day
- CHCS, PTO Meeting, Library, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 27

- CHCS, 6th Grade Band/Chorus Concert, Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 28

- CSS, School Banking Day
- CSS, Family Fun Day, Mrs. Wojtowicz/ Mrs. King's classes, 2-2:30 p.m.
- CHCS, School Banking Day

CSS – Cold Spring School
SRE – Swift River Elementary School
CHCS – Chestnut Hill Community School
JBMS – Jabish Brook Middle School
BHS – Belchertown High School

Cold Spring/Swift River PTO promotes town spirit

BELCHERTOWN - Show your Belchertown Pride! The Cold Spring/Swift River Parent Teacher Organization invites all present and past Belchertown residents and friends to show their love for Belchertown by wearing hats, shirts and hoodies with a unique Belchertown design (the outline of the state of Massachusetts in white with an orange heart where Belchertown is located and the word "Belchertown" written in script across the state).

For more information about the apparel items available for this limited sale, visit www.cssrpto.org. Sale dates are March 5 - March 19, 2020.

CSSR PTO is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that has a mission of "Working together to assist our children on their academic journey". Proceeds from the sale will benefit the PTO's general fund.



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EDUCATION

3 teachers receive the 2020 Excellence in Teaching Award

BELCHERTOWN - Alyssa Vah, Joshua Guerraz and Joanna McNeill have all been selected by the Belchertown Public Schools as a 2020 Excellence in Teaching Award Winners. Vah is a School Nurse at Cold Spring School who is new to the district this year. Guerraz is a veteran Music Teacher at Chestnut Hill Community School with over 12 years of teaching experience. McNeill is a High School Special Education teacher with 10 years of teaching experience.

All three recipients were nominated for this honor by their peers at their respective schools. They were all selected as Belchertown's Excellence in Teaching Award Winners after a series of classroom observations and interviews.

The trio will be honored at a banquet for Excellence in Teaching Award Winners at the Log Cabin in Holyoke on April 30, 2020. The program features the presentation of individual award. Winners will receive an engraved plaque and a check for \$500, with "New Teacher" winners receiving \$250.

Winners also receive membership at WGBY Springfield as well as generous 3-month memberships at the Springfield Jewish Community Center, the Springfield YMCA and five regional YMCAs, and other gifts.

In addition, all 2020 winners are encouraged to apply for the selective Classroom Innovator Prize of \$250 by submitting a project-based learning idea.

The Excellence in Teaching Awards program is made possible by the Harold Grinspoon Charitable Foundation in partnership with the Irene E. & George A. Davis Foundation. Said philanthropist Harold Grinspoon, "It means the world to us recognize and reward the contributions of so many talented educators in the Pioneer Valley."

Other business and community support comes from Arrha Credit Union, Country Bank, Meyers Brothers Kalicka, Monson Savings Bank, and American International College.

For further information about the Excellence in Teaching Awards Program, contact Program Coordinator Michelle Roberts (mroberts@hgf.org)



Student Musicians shine at CHCS

BELCHERTOWN – Chestnut Hill Community School Band Director Jason Mosall has announced the following students as the Musicians of the Month for January 2020.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS BY JASON MOSALL, CHCS INSTRUMENTAL DIRECTOR
Pictured: Finnegan Long- percussion, Alexander Ingersol- percussion, Sean Lindsay- trumpet, Rulon Anderson- trumpet, Emily Waller- clarinet, Avery Cooper-flute, Claire Corbin-French Horn, William Mitus-trombone, Nicholas Martel-Alto sax, Gavin Couchon- Alto sax



Pictured: Sydney Duchesne- clarinet, JR Zlogar- Tenor sax, Aiden Plant-Trumpet, Mia Benoit-Trumpet, Elise Roggie-Clarinet, Leo Renzette-Trumpet, Brodie St. Laurent-Percussion, Joseph Szostek-Alto sax, Jocelyn Patten-Flute, Hayden Bressette-Trumpet, Serena Gross-Bari-tone Horn

Kindergarten Registration for the 2020-2021 School Year begins in March

BELCHERTOWN - Kindergarten Registration for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year will take place at Cold Spring School, located at 57 South Main St. on the dates of Friday, March 20 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursday, March 26 from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. If you are a resident of Belchertown and have a child who will be 5 years of age on or before Sept. 1, 2020, please plan to attend one of these registration dates. Please note it is not necessary for your child to accompany you to registration.

For access to the Belchertown School District Kindergarten Registration packet, Please visit the Cold Spring School website: www.belchertownps.org/css. The Kindergarten Registration packet link is located on the left-hand side.

In addition to the required registration packet, you will be asked to provide: the student's certified birth certificate with raised seal, a copy of immunization records (including lead screening) and current physical (within one year). You will also need to provide two proofs of Belchertown residency: one in the form of a mortgage statement or rental/lease agreement and the second proof in the form of a utility bill (heating, electricity or phone) at the address listed on the registration form.

School staff are happy to assist you with this process. Please call the CSS main office at 413-323-0428 Monday – Friday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with any questions or concerns you may have.

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Ray Haluch, Inc. is currently looking to hire a seasonal full time Class B truck driver with tri-axle experience and willingness to drive smaller delivery trucks. Truck driver is needed Monday though Friday 7:30 to 4:00 plus some hours on Saturday.

Start date will be early Spring. Starting hourly rate \$18/ hr. with paid holidays. M-F 7:30am- 4pm plus some Saturdays 7:30am- 3pm.

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EDUCATION

College NOTES

Southern University of New York

POTSDAM, NEW YORK - SUNY Potsdam student interns traveled to the 2020 National Association of Music Merchants Show in Anaheim, California., from Jan. 16 to 19. Joined by faculty from The Crane School of Music, the students worked directly with leading music industry firms, through a unique internship program organized by the Crane Institute for Music Business.

The students included Erin Finn from, Belchertown, who interned with SKB Cases.

The NAMM Show is the world's leading trade event for the music products industry. The 2020 NAMM Show gathered 115,000 members of the music product industry from 120 countries around the world, to preview new products from 7,000 brands representing 2,000 member companies across every category.

Wentworth Institute of Technology

BOSTON - The following local students have made the Dean's List at Wentworth Institute of Technology for the fall 2019 semester.

Tenzin Lodhen, of Belchertown.

University of New Hampshire

DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE - The following local students have been named to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire for the fall 2019 semester. Students named to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire are students who have earned recognition through their superior scholastic performance during a semester enrolled in a full-time course load (12 or more graded credits). Highest honors are awarded to students who earn a semester grade point average of 3.85 or better out of a possible 4.0. Students with a 3.65 to 3.84 average are awarded high honors and students whose grade point average is 3.5 through 3.64 are awarded honors.

Christopher Tilton, of Belchertown, earning Honors and majoring in Neuroscience & Behavior.

Molly McBride, of Belchertown, earning High Honors and majoring in BiomedSci:Med&VetSci.

Kyle Lindholm, of Belchertown, earning Honors and majoring in Mus:Performance.

Seton Hall University

SOUTH ORANGE, NEW JERSEY - Seton Hall University is pleased to announce Madison Duffy, of Belchertown, has qualified for the Fall 2019 Dean's List.

After the close of every semester, undergraduate students completing all courses with a GPA of 3.4, with no grades lower than "C", qualify for the Dean's List.

New York Institute of Technology

OLD WESTBURY, NEW YORK - Tyler Simoneau, of Granby, has been named to the Fall 2019 Presidential Honor List at New York Institute of Technology. Simoneau, who is studying Architecture, was one of 1,086 students to be honored. To qualify for the Presidential Honor List, a student must achieve a minimum semester GPA of 3.7 and complete at least 12 credit hours without any incomplete grades.

Northeastern University

BOSTON - Northeastern University is pleased to recognize those students who distinguish themselves academically during the course of the school year. The following local students were recently named to the University's Dean's List for the Fall semester, which ended in December 2019.

To achieve the dean's list distinction, students must carry a full program of at least four courses, have a quality point average of 3.5 or greater out of a possible 4.0 and carry no single grade lower than a C- during the course of their college career. Each student receives a letter of commendation and congratulation from their college dean.

Amherst

Maxwell Hopley, majoring in mathematics/business admin.

James Kostas, majoring in biochemistry.

Amanda Dee, majoring in bioengineering.

Peter Treyz, majoring in economics/business admin.

Justin Guaytanof, majoring in health science.

Timothy Demling, majoring in mathematics.

Ling Li, majoring in mechanical engineering. Rebecca Tuthill, majoring in physics.

Hofstra University

HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK - Lauren Brill, of Granby, excelled during the Fall 2019 semester, achieving a GPA of at least 3.5 to earn a spot on the Dean's List.

Allegheny County Medical Society Foundation awards Medical Student Scholarship

HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA. — Allegheny County Medical Society Foundation has awarded a \$4,000 scholarship to Sarah Minney, daughter of Don Minney and the late Janet Minney, of Belchertown. She is a fourth-year medical student at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

Minney is passionate about community service and making an impact locally. "A major reason why I decided to specialize in family medicine is because essential to its practice is the understanding that an individual's health does not begin or end at the physician's office door or the entrance to the hospital," Minney said. "I know that in order to best support my community and to best lead my community, I need to advocate just as much for city maintenance funding, business funding, school funding, and job growth initiatives as I do for improved health care policies and better access to health insurance."

Minney's extensive community service efforts have spanned the length of her collegiate career. She's made an impact in her undergraduate, post-baccalaureate and medical school communities. During her time at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, she served as coordinator for the Family Medicine Interest Group, organizing a food drive and trip to a local food pantry, trips to several health fair screenings to provide blood pressure and diabetes education, and a family medicine networking event at a local restaurant to bring together students and physicians from the community.

In 2004, ACMS Foundation established this annual scholarship with \$10,000 in seed money, which has grown to maturity thanks to generous contributions from the



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Sarah Minney, of Belchertown.

ACMS Foundation and local physicians. Eligibility includes status as a third- or fourth-year Pennsylvania medical student from Allegheny County; U.S. citizenship; and full-time enrollment in a Pennsylvania medical school.

The Foundation of the Pennsylvania Medical Society is pleased to administer the fund for ACMS Foundation. ACMS's mission is to provide leadership and advocacy for patients and physicians.

The Foundation, a nonprofit affiliate of the Pennsylvania Medical Society, sustains the future of medicine in Pennsylvania by providing programs that support medical education, physician health and excellence in practice. It has been helping to finance medical education for more than 60 years.

GRANT • from page 1

and it is great for literacy."

"I have always been a huge proponent of the Arts, Humanities and Science creative Learning programs," said Representative Thomas M. Petrolati. "It is important that these grants, which allow students the opportunity to experience these creative programs, continue to be available."

Granby's grant funding will go to East Meadow School for the Chain Reaction Machines in the Classroom program. Chain Reaction Machines allows students to solve challenging, collaborative physical science tasks through trial and error with Hitchcock Center for the Environment.

Science and Social Studies Teacher Beth Perron added that the program allows students to work with new and increasingly difficult science and engineering challenges.

"All challenges involved a task to accomplish, a specific set of materials, and a time constraint. Students were given

everyday objects such as dominoes, paper tubes, marbles, golf balls, tape, string, etc. and needed to—in a series of steps—complete a task," she said. "They were doing the real work of scientists and engineers - and they loved it."

"I'm so excited that these resources are coming to Granby to support creative learning," said Representative Daniel R. Carey. "The collaboration between the Mass Cultural Council and the wonderful local educators who recognized this opportunity is fantastic. Creating rich cultural learning experiences is so important for our students."

"The impact of the Mass Cultural Council is far-reaching and I am so grateful that this award is not only experienced by the residents of Granby but also includes another institution in my district: the Hitchcock Center for the Environment as a partner," added Representative Mindy Domb. "All three partners—the Granby public schools, the Mass Cultural Council and the Hitchcock Center—will be a powerful trio for our community's children."

The Library Loft

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We are celebrating our 20th year at the Schoolhouse Commons.

Thanks to our wonderful "friends," volunteers and patrons.

HOURS:

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Book donations will be accepted at the Palmer Public Library or the Library Loft during open hours. Please, no magazines or Reader's Digest Condensed Books. We accept books only in good, clean condition.

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NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

SENIORS

Belchertown Senior Center activities

BELCHERTOWN – The Council on Aging is a community-based resource for citizens of Belchertown ages 60 and over. They serve the needs of an average of 175 elders each day. The Senior Center, located just off Route 202 at the William Gerald Whitlock Municipal Complex (next to the police station), is home to a variety of programs and services.

ONGOING

Active Aging Fitness: Mondays at 8:45 a.m.

Second Best Thrift Shop: Stop in Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 - 11:30 a.m. and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Music: Live entertainment every Tuesday at 10 a.m.

Bingo: Daytime Bingo will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. Evening Bingo will be on hiatus until the spring.

Bridge: Players of any skill level are welcome to stop by to learn to play Mondays at 10 a.m.

BPD/BFD: First Thursday at 11:20 a.m.

Cell Phone Class: Third Thursday at 11 a.m.

Computer Class: Tuesdays from 9-11 a.m.

Crafts and Quilting Group: Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 9 a.m.

Cribbage: Tuesdays at 9 a.m.

Decluttering Group: First Friday at 10 a.m.

Knitting: Friday at 9:30 a.m.

Mah-Jongg: Wednesdays at 1 p.m.

Pitch: Thursday at 10 a.m.

Zumba Gold Exercise Class: Wednesdays at 8:45 a.m.

Reiki: Thursday by appt. \$35 for half hour, \$50 for an hour.

Tai Chi: Tuesday and Friday at 11:15 a.m. A 50 cent donation is encouraged.

Yoga: Times to be determined for upcoming sessions.

Veterans Social Group: Last Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m.

Square Dancing has been discontinued. If there is enough interest in the future the COA will offer it again. A minimum of 8 participants need to be willing to attend to offer the class.

MONTHLY GROUPS & NOTICES

ACTIVE AGING FITNESS

Monday mornings at 8:45 a.m. Lisa Stahl is a Certified Personal Trainer and Group Fitness Instructor. She trains clients and teaches group fitness classes at Simply Fit and at the Senior Center, right here in Belchertown.

Active Aging Fitness is designed to help active older people maintain their cardiovascular health, strength, flexibility and balance. Hand-held weights, squishy balls, resistance bands as well as one's own body weight are used to enhance the workout. A chair will be available during our workouts as a tool to offer support

during stretches and balancing exercises.

Proper footwear is required. This class is designed for participants who are beginning-intermediate fitness level. Modifications are always provided as needed.

Cost for this class is as follows - \$8 per class drop in, \$5 per class if paid in advance for the month, \$10 per class for anyone under 60 years old.

DECLUTTERING GROUP

All are welcome to join COA staff and volunteers for an informal organizing discussion group the first Friday of every month at 10 a.m. The group will share ideas about downsizing and decluttering, or any other area of organization with which you might be struggling.

Organizing Professional Becky Martin will facilitate the group. This will be an interactive monthly group meeting rather than a formal presentation.

BLOOD PRESSURE

The second Wednesday of each month join Public Health Nurse Carrie in the Wellness Room and have your blood pressure and blood sugar checked for free from 9:30-10 a.m.

MONTHLY CELL PHONE CLASS

Join Volunteer Damion monthly, every third Thursday at 11 a.m. to ask questions or get help with your Android or Apple smart phone.

FOOT CARE

Foot Care Nurse Piper Sagan's rates for the Belchertown Senior Center Foot Care Clinic and her home visit appointments will be changing as of Dec. 1. The foot care clinic will cost \$35 while In Home Foot Care will cost \$60.

Due to a change in the instructor's schedule there will be no weekly Wednesday Lunch and Learn until further notice. The COA hopes to be able to host this program and visiting UMass students in the future.

CENSUS

Please watch for the 2020 Federal Census to arrive in your mail box. Although filling this out may seem like a tedious task, do not underestimate the amount of help that is provided via grants to the Center for essential services through proper accounting of our community's 60-plus population.

Would you like some help getting it completed properly? Please call Heather and she'll be happy to meet with you to help!

COA Weather Policy

The Belchertown Senior Center follows the Belchertown Public Schools.

If there is a school cancellation, the Center is also closed and no meals are provided.

If there is a delay, both

Home Delivered Meals and the Congregate Meal are provided

If there is a delay, no morning exercise classes will be held. Classes beginning after noon will be offered.

School closings and delays are listed on local tv stations, 3, 22 and 40. If you'd like to receive a notification about schools canceling you can sign up online via one of these stations. Also, please be sure to have correct contact info updated on the exercise attendance sheets. Calls will go out for delays when possible.

CRAFTERS OVERSTOCK SALE

The early bird gets the worm with this sale! Don't miss the crafter's overstock sale in the connecting hallway between the two buildings of the BCOA.

Stop in throughout the month of February to stock up on yarn, knitting needles, crochet hooks, fabric and many other items that the crafters have to share at prices too good to refuse!

TRAVEL CLUB

Balances due, and seats still available for Celtic Angels on March 3 at 2 p.m. at Aqua Turf for \$90. Reserve your seat for the Mother's Day Brunch and Engelbert Humperdinck & Tom Jones show on May 11 at the Log Cabin in Holyoke. This self-drive trip is only \$53.

Additional 2020 trips will include an Indian Princess Paddleboat tour and visit to the Grafton country store on June 1. Included in the ticket price will be a fish, steak or chicken meal. The cost per person is \$84. Deposits are being taken now. Please call 413-323-0420 x 513 to reserve your ticket or to learn more.

Join the bucket list! The TRIAD/S.A.L.T Council is looking for some help. For the last few years, TRIAD volunteers have delivered 5 gallon buckets of sand to help prevent slips and falls over the winter months. Problem is, they don't have lids and the rain fills them and they become useless. Cat litter buckets like these work better because they come with a handle and a built in lid!

If you have CLEAN and EMPTY cat litter buckets like the ones pictured, no matter what color, we'd love to have them of you don't want them. Please feel free to drop them off at the Senior Center any time or call Katy if you are unable to drop them off.

UPCOMING

BEACH PARTY

As of Feb. 3 be sure to speak with Katy and reserve your seat for an upcoming Beach Party on Friday, Feb. 21. Let's remember what the sun looks like by brightening up the dining room! Wear

BCOA • from page 13



Duo leaves magical impression at Christopher Heights

BELCHERTOWN – Christopher Heights Assisted Living Facility hosted an afternoon of entertainment recently with the arrival of musical duo Michael Tourville and Danny Roy. As part of "Memory Lane", Tourville brought his crooning, wonderful songs from the 50s and 60s while Roy regaled the audience with harmonies reminiscent of the Everly Brothers. The duo augmented their performance with musical instruments, including percussion instruments and excellent trumpet playing.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS LORNA STONE

Granby Senior Center activities

GRANBY – All activities take place at the Granby Senior Center, located at 10 West State St. (467-3239) and are free unless otherwise noted. The COA is open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. No membership is required to take part in the activities/events. Anyone over 55 years of age is welcomed.

Lunch is served daily at 12 p.m. Reservations should be made by noon the previous day you wish to attend. The suggested donation is \$2.25. Anyone over 60 years of age is eligible. Call the Senior Center to make your reservation. Transportation is available to Granby residents for \$1 round trip.

Transportation is available Monday through Friday for Granby residents. This includes lunch, medical, activities and shopping. We travel to Springfield, Holyoke, Northampton, Florence, Chicopee and all towns surrounding Granby. The Outreach Worker is available Wednesday and Thursday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The S.H.I.N.E. Counselor is available by appointment. Please contact the Senior Center for assistance. Please remember the Food Pantry is always looking for donations of protein products, like eggs, fish and chicken. The Food Pantry is closed during Foot

Care appointments until 1 p.m.

DAILY ACTIVITIES

Friday, Feb. 21: 10 a.m. – Easy Country Fitness; 12 p.m. – Lunch, Potato Pollock; 1 p.m. – Ballroom Dancing, \$5.

Monday, Feb. 24: 10 a.m. – Healthy Bones & Balance; 12 p.m. – Lunch, Noodles w/sauce; 1 p.m. – Michigan Rummy.

Tuesday, Feb. 25: 9 a.m. – Newsletter Assembly, Volunteers; 9 a.m. – SHINE by Appt.; 10 a.m. – Easy Country Fitness; 12 p.m. – Lunch, Mardi Gras Luncheon; 12:30 p.m. – Quilting/Needle Work.

Wednesday, Feb. 26: 11 a.m. – Indoor Corn Hole; 12 p.m. – Lunch, Ash Wednesday, Macaroni & Cheese w/soup; 1 p.m. – Progressive Rummy.

Thursday, Feb. 27: 10 a.m. – Healthy Bones & Balance; 11:30 a.m. – Blood Pressure Clinic; 12 p.m. – Lunch, Pot Roast w/ gravy; 1 p.m. – Movie, 13 Going On 30.

Friday, Feb. 28: 9:30 a.m. – Stamp Collectors; 10:30 a.m. – Easy Country Fitness; 12 p.m. – Lunch, Salmon w/dill sauce; 1 p.m. – Ballroom Dancing, \$5.

FRIEND'S OF GRANBY'S ELDERLY

March 28, 2020: Mohegan Sun Casino Trip, 8 a.m.

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PHOTOS BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI



BHS hosts *48th Annual Music Festival*

KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN - The 48th annual Quabbin Valley Music Educators Association festival concert was held over the weekend at Belchertown High School, featuring some of the best student musicians from central and western Massachusetts.

“It’s always really fun, mostly for the kids because it is a premium music experience,” said Matthew Lareau, Quabbin Music Educators Association Treasurer and Manager of the Senior Chorus. “The kids have a great time, and most students don’t get this type of experience.”

The “Quabbin Festival” is a concert that combines the best local student musicians, vocal and instrumental, in one event. Students are selected for the festival upon recommendation of their own music teachers.

According to Lareau, about 100 students participated at the high school level and 80 students participated at the middle school level. The association began in 1972 when music teachers representing the Quabbin Regional School District, Tantasqua Regional School District, and the Palmer Public Schools met to organize an event that would provide a musical experience of a more challenging nature for their students, according to event information.

“It was decided to organize a concert festival which would combine the best student musicians from each of the schools into four musical ensembles: the Junior High Concert Band, Junior High Concert Chorus, Senior High Concert Choir, and Senior High Symphonic Band,” the event program reads.

After much deliberation, the Quabbin Valley Music Educators Association was formed and other schools in the region between Springfield and Worcester were invited to participate. The association and festival are non-profit and self-funded with monies being used solely for the



operation of the rehearsals and the concert festival.

By 1974, the organization had grown to 12 schools. Now, students from 22 schools participated, including: Athol High School, Athol-Royalston Middle School, Auburn High School, Auburn Middle School, Baird Middle School, Belchertown High School, Frontier Regional School, Granby Junior/Senior High School, Holyoke High

School, Jabish Brook Middle School, Ludlow High School, Minnechaug Regional High School, Monson High School, Narragansett Middle School, Narragansett Regional High School, Palmer Middle/High School, Quabbin Regional MS/HS, Quaboag Regional MS/HS, Tantasqua Regional Senior High, Tantasqua Regional Junior High, Wachusett Regional High School, and Wilbraham Middle School.

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Valena Rutkowski
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Brad Spry
413-519-4049



383 College Street, Amherst
413-461-3650

HEART • from page 1

the community room of the Belchertown Police Department where throughout the day on Feb. 9 attendees had the chance to visit and use craft materials to create their displays.

Heart Bombs are love letters written specifically to historic places. Each year around Valentine’s Day on Feb. 14 historic sites throughout the country are celebrated with tangible, visible expressions of love that often times show that the buildings are worth saving for future preservation.

Amidst the changing landscape of the former state school the Administrative building is just one of many original structures still at the location that sit intact and awaiting possible re-use. Built between 1926 and 1927, the hall acted as a hub for leadership staff at the state school featuring offices as well as an extensive medical library and examination rooms.

The Friends Association began their efforts last year in hopes of highlighting the possibility of utilizing the former administrative building, in part, as a location dedicated toward the preservation of the

state school’s history in Belchertown. The group’s members aim to keep the building intact with hopes of using space at the front of the building to maintain important historic records and archives regarding the evolution of mental health treatment in the commonwealth. This would leave the possibility of having the back of the building utilized to generate revenue.

Looking to the immediate future, Anderson said that the group will this year shift gears toward finding dedicated development partners for their initiative.

“We want to find someone who fits the needs of the project,” said Anderson, who said it would also be vital that any prospective partner also be willing to work along side other groups such as the Economic Development Industrial Corporation.

A book authored by Anderson and published through Arcadia Publishing, “Images of America: Belchertown State School” is set to be made available for purchase in June. Exploring the history of the state school as the third school for the “feeble minded” in the state, proceeds raised from the sales of the book will be donated to the Friends Association to assist in their mission.



Nearly 100 valentines appeared on at the administrative building on Friday as part of the first annual Heart Bomb event hosted by the Belchertown State School Friends Association, Inc.

VOTING • from page 1

Registered voters have the option to request an early voting ballot through the mail. Applications are available at www.sec.state.ma.us/ele. They may be filled out and mailed to the Granby Town Clerk, 215 B West State St., Granby, MA, 01033 or to the Belchertown Town Clerk, 2 Jabish St., Room 201, P.O. Box 629, Belchertown, MA, 01007.

Those who do not vote in the early voting period can cast their ballots on Tuesday, March 3, at the Belchertown High School Gymnasium, 142 Springfield Rd. for Belchertown and at the Granby Jr. Sr. High School Gymnasium for Granby located at 385 East State St.

Participants in early voting, like voters on March 3, will be able to vote in the presidential primary election, as well as the primary for the special state senate election. Registered members of the Democratic, Republican, Green-Rainbow and Libertarian parties can vote on their party’s ballot; political independents (“unenrolled”) can choose to vote on any party’s primary ballot.

On the same ballot as the presidential primary, Granby voters will also decide their local ballot picks for State Committee Man for the First Hampden & Hampshire Senatorial District, State Committee Woman for the First Hampden & Hampshire Senatorial District, and Town Committee representatives for each of the four primary parties.

Those who select Democratic ballots can choose from 15 candidates in the presidential primary. Listed in ballot order, they are former Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick, Minnesota U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar, Massachusetts U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren, Colorado U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet, former New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, Hawaii U.S. Rep. Tulsi Gabbard, New Jersey U.S. Sen. Cory Booker, former San Antonio, Texas, Mayor Julian Castro, California hedge fund manager Tom Steyer, Vermont U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, former Vice President Joseph R. Biden, former Maryland U.S. Rep. John K. Delaney, New York entrepreneur Andrew Yang, former South Bend, Ind., Mayor Pete Buttigieg, and California author Marianne Williamson. Booker, Castro, Delaney, Patrick, Williamson and Yang appear on ballots even though they are no longer actively campaigning.

Bruce Samuel Adams Jr. of Springfield, appears as the only name on local ballots for Granby for Democratic state committeeman; Marygail B. Cokkinias of Longmeadow is the sole Democratic state committeewoman; and for Democratic Town Committee voters will be asked to make a vote for a group including Emre E. Evren, Jennifer A. Silva, and Harvey I. Lijek.

Republican ballots for the presidential primary will include, in ballot order, former Massachusetts Gov. William F. Weld, former Illinois U.S. Rep. Joe Walsh, incumbent President Donald J. Trump, and California businessman Roque “Rocky” de

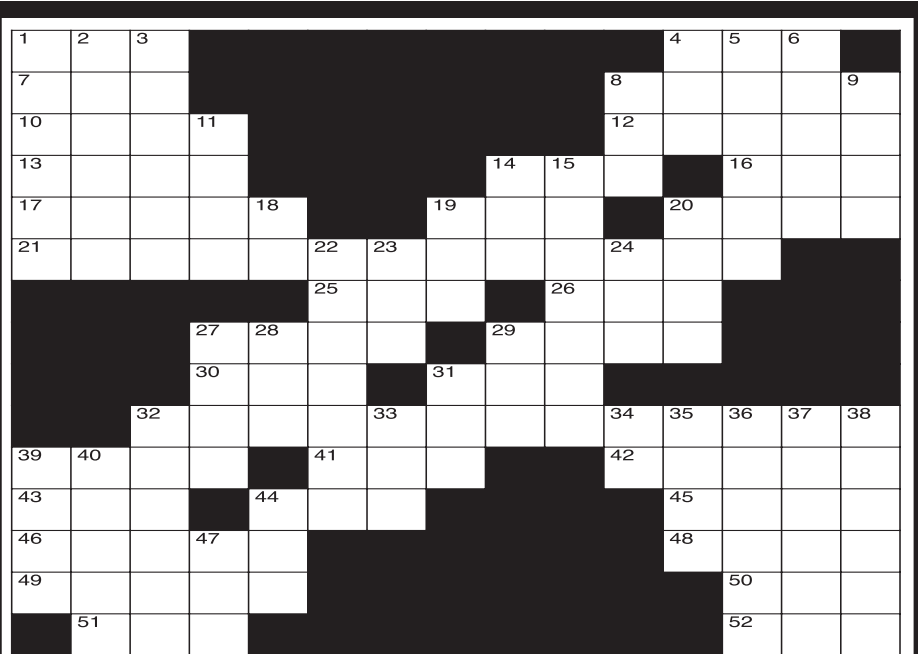
la Fuente. Walsh appears on ballots even though he has suspended his campaign.

Local Republican Ballots for Granby will feature a choice for Republican state committeeman between Sidney Starks of East Longmeadow and Douglas Lyman of Chicopee; Deborah Martell of Ludlow appears as the sole pick for state committeewoman. A group selection for Republican Town Committee for Granby will include William E. Johnson, Tracey Johnson and Bryan F. Hauschild.

Green-Rainbow ballots for the presidential primary will include Dario Hunter, Sedinam Kinamo Christin Moyowasifza-Curry, Kent Mesplay and Howard Hawkins. There are no candidates on Granby Green-Rainbow ballots for state committee or town committee selections.

Libertarian ballots for the presidential primary will include Arvin Vohra, Vermin Love Supreme, Jacob George Hornberger, Samuel Joseph Robb, Dan Taxation is Theft Behrman, Kimberly Margaret Ruff, Kenneth Reed Armstrong, Adam Kokesh, Jo Jorgensen and Max Abramson. There are no candidates on Granby Libertarian ballots for state committee or town committee selections.

Belchertown and Granby residents can check their voter registration status at www.sec.state.ma.us/ele, or call their respective Town Clerk’s Offices for Belchertown at 413-323-9419 and Granby at 413-467-7178. The last day to register to vote, or change parties, in time for the primary election was Feb. 12.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Expression of disgust
- 4. A place to unwind
- 7. A type of cooking range
- 8. Grasp tightly
- 10. Sea eagles
- 12. Carb dish
- 13. Late-night host
- 14. Revolutions per minute
- 16. Indicates odd or erroneous
- 17. FDR’s military chief of staff
- 19. Swiss river
- 20. Norwegian district and river
- 21. A form of motivation
- 25. Car mechanics group
- 26. Once a must-have home theater accessory
- 27. Broken branch

- 29. Apple and pumpkin are two
- 30. Skeletal muscle
- 31. Small Eurasian deer
- 32. Tight-lipped fellow
- 39. Comes after a cut
- 41. A place one lives
- 42. Cognizant of
- 43. Albanian monetary unit
- 44. Carrot’s partner
- 45. Famed garden
- 46. Chilean seaport
- 48. Days (Spanish)
- 49. Sudden anxiety
- 50. 100 square meters
- 51. A type of beer
- 52. French/Belgian river

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Spanish dish
- 2. Concurs
- 3. ___ and her sisters

- 4. Patti Hearst’s captors
- 5. Used to refer to cited works
- 6. A state of excited movement
- 8. Advertising term (abbr.)
- 9. Nocturnal S. American rodent
- 11. New York art district
- 14. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
- 15. Pre-release viewing
- 18. Northwestern Canadian territory (abbr.)
- 19. Consumed
- 20. Falts
- 22. Radioactive form of an element
- 23. Catch a wrongdoer
- 24. Breeze through

- 27. Thick piece of something
- 28. Yellowish-brown color
- 29. “The Raven” poet
- 31. Rural free delivery (abbr.)
- 32. Creating
- 33. Supervises flying
- 34. Northwestern state
- 35. Was obligated to repay
- 36. Diverging in lines from a common center
- 37. Bleak
- 38. We all have them
- 39. Hit with the palm of one’s hand
- 40. Sea that’s part of the western Pacific
- 44. Political action committee
- 47. Famed Spanish soldier El ___

BCOA • from page 11

your bright summer colors and join in the fun.

At 10:30 am, enjoy T-Bone’s Tropical Adventure where tunes from the Beach Boys, Jimmy Buffet and Hawaiian songs from Don Ho will be performed. Doors open at 10 a.m. for a special \$5 meal of mild chili cheese dogs and french fries.

HEART MONTH

February is Heart Month! Join Registered Dietitian, Jennifer Belanger on Wednesday, Feb. 19 at 10 a.m. for an interactive discussion and taste test of heart healthy refreshments. Take some home to try too! Jen will share recipes, healthy snack and food ideas to add in to your diet and answer any questions you have about keeping your heart healthy!

MOVIES OF THE MONTH

Wednesday, Feb. 26: Judy (PG-13)

LOCAL Opportunity IS KNOCKING

STAFF WRITER POSITION

Turley Publications is seeking an energetic person to fill the position of staff writer for two of its weekly publications: the *Ware River News*, which covers Ware, Hardwick and Warren, and the *Quaboag Current*, which covers the Brookfields, Sturbridge and New Braintree. This full-time position is based in our Ware office at 80 Main St. The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills or the enthusiasm to develop them.

The staff writer will cover municipal meetings, features and general news; essentially everything that unfolds in small towns. Assignments will be for both newspapers as well as other companywide publications.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor’s degree or equivalent experience
- Own camera and photography experience preferred
- Enthusiasm for community journalism
- Ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced environment

Please email resume and three writing samples directly to Eileen Kennedy Managing Editor at ekennedy@turley.com.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, FEB. 20

PARTNERS: An artists in the community forum will be held at Gallery A3 in Amherst beginning at 7:30 p.m. in which artists exhibiting in the current exhibition “PARTNERS” will discuss their process of collaboraton and co-creation. PARTNERS is on display until Feb. 28.

SATURDAY, FEB. 22

HAM DINNER: The Immaculate Heart of Mary Men’s and Women’s Club will host a Ham Dinner open to members of the community at the parish hall beginning at 5:30 p.m. The price of the meal is \$12 and take out options will be available. Tickets can be purchased at the door the evening of the event or by contacting the rectory office at 413-467-9821.

SUNDAY, FEB. 23

QUABBIN WINTER SERIES: The next part of the ongoing Quabbin Winter Series entitled “Quabbin Enters the Digital Age” will take place at the Quabbin Visitor Center beginning at 2 p.m. As part of the Quabbin Reservoir Construction Project, thousands of photographs were taken of the properties purchased and removed. These photos are a fascinating window into the world of the Quabbin Valley as it existed prior to 1938 and have now been scanned for public viewing. The Quabbin Visitor Center is located in the DCR Quabbin Administration Building at the west end of Winsor Dam in Belchertown. Access to the Center is through the Main (West) Quabbin Park entrance on Route 9, three miles east of the Route 9/Route 202 intersection. The lectures are free to attend and seating is available on a first come, first serve basis.

MONDAY, FEB. 24

CENSUS 2020: Representatives Daniel R. Carey (D-Easthampton) and Paul W. Mark (D- Peru) will host a Census 2020 Kickoff event for the Second Hampshire District at the South Hadley Public Library from 6:30-7:30 p.m. The US Census, which is conducted every ten years, provides a snapshot of our nation that helps determine where to build new schools and businesses and how federal funding is distributed. Carey and Mark will be joined by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission’s Complete Count Committee and the US Census Bureau to raise awareness for US Census Outreach efforts in Hampshire County.

QUABBIN PHOTO GROUP: Will host its monthly meeting at the Hope United Methodist Church at 31 Main St. in Belchertown beginning at 7 p.m. This month the group will welcome landscape photographer Marvin Moriarty for a look at his extensive career with the US. Fish and Wildlife Service and the many sites he was able to visit and photograph across the globe. Refreshments are served at 7 p.m. followed by the program at 7:30 p.m. For more info visit www.quabbinphotogroup.com.

TUESDAY, FEB. 25

BEGINER FLY TYING: Learn the basic skills of tying your own flies during this free, hands-on, two-session course offered at MassWildlife’s Connecticut Valley District Office (341 East St., Belchertown), from 6:30–8:30 p.m. All tools and tying materials provided. Open to the public for beginning fly tiers only, minimum age is 15. A second class will take place on Thursday, Feb. 27. Pre-registration is mandatory. Please contact Jim Lagacy to register at jim.lagacy@mass.gov or (508) 389-6309.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 26

BLOODMOBILE: The Baystate Health Blood Donor Mobile will host a blood drive from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Baystate Mary Lane on the Baystate Health Bloodmobile. In appreciation, all eligible donors will receive a Big Y or Dunkin Donuts gift card. The bloodmobile will be parked in the North (visitors) parking lot, located at 85 South St. in Ware

THURSDAY, FEB. 27

HEART TO HEART: Area women are invited to attend “Heart to Heart” an educational seminar offered

by Grace LaValley, DNP, AGACNP-BC, taking place from 6 –7:30 p.m. at Baystate Wing Hospital’s Snow Conference Room in Palmer. LaValley will speak to attendees about recognizing the risks of heart disease and the available methods for treatment. The event is free to attend, however registration is required. Registration is required by calling 413-794-5200 or visiting <https://hearttoheartbwh.eventbrite.com>

JAZZ ENSEMBLES: The 39th Annual Jazz Showcase, presented by the UMass Amherst Dept. of Music and Dance, will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Bowker Auditorium. Featuring performances by the top instrumental and vocal ensembles from the Music and Dance Department’s Jazz and African-American Music Studies program. Tickets are \$10 for the general public and \$5 for students, seniors and children through age 18. UMass students are admitted free. Tickets may be purchased at the Fine Arts Center Box Office, by phone at 413-545-2511, or online at www.fineartscenter.com/musicand-dance.

SATURDAY, FEB. 29

PANEL DISCUSSION – The Belchertown Democratic Town Committee will present a film and panel discussion for the community on the future of reliable and affordable health care, Saturday February 29, 9 to 11 a.m. at the Belchertown Town Hall, 2 Jabish St., Belchertown. Participation is free. Refreshments will be served.

STRING QUARTET: The Jones Library will host the renowned Parker String Quartet for a special performance starting at 11 a.m. in the Woodbury Room. The Parker Quartet will perform a one hour concert of their latest repertoire at the Jones Library in Amherst. The concert is not ticketed, free of charge, and is followed by a cookie and cider reception featuring Henion’s Bakery leap day treats. The Jones library is located at 43 Amity St. in Amherst.

TEEN FOCUS GROUP: The Clapp Memorial Library invites teens from the local area to join staff and take part in a focus group session geared toward helping develop future events and programs at the library. The session will be held from 10-11 a.m. and will feature free donuts and door prizes. Space is limited and teens are asked to register in advance at the circulation desk or by calling 413-323-0417.

MONDAY, MARCH 2

REPRESENT US: The local chapter of RepresentUS Western Mass will host its March meeting from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Greenfield Savings Bank, located at 325 King St. in Northampton across from the Bluebonnet Diner. RepresentUS is a non-partisan group working for campaign finance reform and fighting government corruption to make our democracy stronger. All are welcome to attend.

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

POCKETBOOK BINGO: The Pease Keepers Against Cancer Relay For Life team will host a Pocketbook Bingo Fundraiser at the Belchertown VFW, located at 41 Pelham Rd. Doors open at 1 p.m. with Bingo starting at 2 p.m. For a donation of \$40 participants will receive a pack of 3 Bingo cards (8 games total) and dauber as well as 1 door prize raffle ticket. Extra books and raffle tickets will be available for purchase. This is and age 18 and up event with funds to help support the team’s efforts as part of the upcoming Quaboag Valley Relay for Life.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

DAFFODIL RUN: Taking place on the Amherst Town Common beginning at 10 a.m. The Daffodil Run is a celebration of the strength of young people, Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring programs, and the community. The event includes a 10K run and 5K run/walk, with courses that showcase the 50,000 daffodils planted in celebration of the Town of Amherst’s 250th anniversary. Both courses are USATF certified. Featuring additional activities for all ages.

PUBLIC NOTICES

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
OFFICE OF TAX COLLECTOR

NOTICE OF TAX TAKING

To the owners of the hereinafter described land and to all others concerned, you are hereby notified that on **March 6, 2020** at ten o’clock a.m. at 2 Jabish Street, pursuant to the provisions of General Law Chapter 60, Section 53, and by the authority vested in me as Collector of Taxes, it is my intention to take for the Town of Belchertown the following parcels of land for non-payment of taxes, liens, betterments, and/or CPA surcharges due thereon with interest and all incidental expenses and costs to the date of taking, unless the same shall have been paid before that date..

COTE, TERENCE E. & CATHERINE M:

A certain parcel of land situated at 156 Jackson Street, containing 2.20 acres of land more or less with buildings thereon as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 243 006.000 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 1937, Page 116: FY2019 Real Estate \$2,236.87, FY2019 CPA \$6.07.

FRANGAKIS, MICHAEL T.: A certain parcel of land situated at 420 North Washington Street, containing 1.474 acres of land more or less with buildings thereon as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 261 020.000 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 3456, Page 287: FY2019 Real Estate \$3,110.59, FY2019 CPA \$26.00

FRANGAKIS, MICHAEL T. & FRANGAKIS CHARLES E:

A certain parcel of land situated at 1111 Federal Street, containing 2.62 acres of land more or less with buildings thereon as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 205 089.000 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 11542, Page 341: FY2019 Real Estate \$3,400.19, FY2019 CPA \$51.00.

HAYWARD JAMES N d/b/a HAYWARD

CONSTRUCTION: A certain parcel of land situated at the rear of Aldrich Street, containing 7.447 acres of land more or less as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 248 001.000 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 6427, Page 280: FY2019 Real Estate \$131.01.

MACPHERSON ARLENA B:

A certain parcel of land situated at 16 Tucker Lane, containing 14,816 square feet of land more or less with buildings thereon as shown on Belchertown

Assessors Map 238 175.000 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 3577, Page 266: FY2019 Real Estate \$386.69.

PERRY JOHN FRANCIS & PERRY

DENISE LEE: A certain parcel of land situated at 1302 Federal Street, Unit B19 with buildings thereon as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 203 010.018 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 12729, Page 203: FY2019 Real Estate \$1,764.22.

Lisa M. Banner
Collector of Taxes
2/20/2020

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampshire Probate and Family Court
15 Atwood Drive
Northampton, MA 01060
(413)586-8500
Docket No. HS19C0152CA
In the Matter of:
Lily Elizabeth Guerin
CITATION ON
PETITION TO
CHANGE NAME**

A Petition to **Change Name of Adult** has been filed by **Lily Elizabeth Guerin of Belchertown, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

**Lily Elizabeth Benoit
IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Hampshire Probate and Family Court** before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **03/04/2020**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

Witness, Hon. **Linda S Fidnick**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: January 21, 2020
Michael J. Carey
Register of Probate
2/20/2020

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

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Mustangs win offensive slugfest over Orioles



Nathaniel Schiffer makes a pass instead of shooting.

TIM PETERSON
Sports Correspondent

MONSON — Monson sophomore forward Colby Duggan didn't play in a non-league home game versus Greenfield on Feb. 8 because of a right hand injury.

Belchertown varsity coach Matt Stenius was probably hoping that Duggan wouldn't be able to play against his team either two nights later. His wish didn't come true.

See **ORIOLES**, page 20 •



PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGHOTOS.COM
RIGHT: Aadon Crisotomo tries to bring in the rebound.

TOURNAMENT

Western Mass. tournament important to area athletic directors, coaches

Editor's note: This is the final article of a four-part series to break down the statewide tournament proposal, what it is, its effect on the Western Mass. region, the challenges, and how your athletic directors and coaches feel about it.

TIM PETERSON
Sports Correspondent

REGION — One representative from each of the 380 MIAA member high schools will be voting on the new statewide tournament proposal on Feb. 28 at Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School located in Marlborough.

Several Western Mass. athletic directors and coaches have expressed their concerns about the new plan. At the top of the list is how the new statewide tournament will impact the future of the Western Mass. tournaments.

"I think the Tournament Management Committee has done a tremendous job of putting together this proposal and they've done their research," said Ludlow Athletic Director Tim Brillo. "The biggest concern in this area is making sure that we can maintain the

Western Mass. Championships. I'm hoping we'll still be able to do that."

If the new tournament plan does pass on the Feb. 28, a Western Mass. tournament could still possibly be held during the final week of the regular season in each team sport.

"It might be like how the NCAA does it now in basketball," added Brillo, who's currently a member of the MIAA Board of Directors. "They hold a conference tournament prior to the start of the NCAA tournament. I'm really hoping that we can do the same type of thing with all of our sports. Changes are always scary and difficult."

At its January meeting, the Board of Directors voted 14-3 in favor of the statewide tournament proposal.

Brillo isn't really sure what the outcome of the vote will be on Feb. 28.

If the new statewide plan is approved, it will go into effect at the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

Currently the winner of each Division of the Western Mass. tournaments faces the winning team of the Central Mass. tournament in the state semifinals.

See **TOURNEY**, page 19 •

GRANBY BOYS BASKETBALL

Rams spoil senior night for Indians

TIM PETERSON
Sports Correspondent

WARE — Entering the second meeting of the regular season with Bi-County West rival Granby, the Ware Indians only needed a win to clinch a berth in the Western Mass. Division 4 boys basketball tournament. The Rams needed two victories in order to punch their postseason ticket.

The Rams moved a step closer to reaching their goal with a 59-41 road win, which spoiled the Indians senior night celebration, last Wednesday.

"This is our ninth win of the season and that's the most important thing for us tonight," said Granby head coach Tim Sheehan. "We haven't had our whole team for most of the season and we were missing two guys in tonight's game. I just saw a side of my team that I've been waiting to see for a long time. We played with a lot of energy and we were very unselfish. It was also our best defensive performance of the season."

It was the second fewest points allowed by the Rams this sea-

son. They gave up 36 points in a non-league home victory against Pioneer Valley Christian in the third game of the regular season.

Granby battled Ware in last week's contest without senior guard Luis Gaj and junior forward Dylan Moriarty.

The Rams, who swept the season series against the Indians, began the final week of the regular season with 10-8 overall record. They finished with a 3-5 league record. Their only other league win came at Monson at the beginning of January.

The Rams secured a berth in the Division 4 tournament two nights later by posting a 67-50 non-league road win versus Bay State Academy.

The Indians (10-9, 4-4) also qualified for the postseason tournament, which starts next week, last Friday night. They snapped a two-game losing streak with a 74-69 overtime road win against Monson.

The tournament pairings are scheduled to be announced on Saturday.

The Indians only senior this



PHOTOS BY JACK CASCIO NEAP.SMUGMUG.COM
Steven Torres, Jr. gets maximum height on this shot.

year is James Berthiaume. He rejoined the varsity team this winter after not playing basketball a year ago.

"James was a member of the varsity basketball team as a soph-

See **GRANBY BOYS**, page 16 •



Josh Hart tries to play some big defense.

SPORTS

Tigers reach tournament with win over Colts

TIM PETERSON
Sports Correspondent

HOLYOKE — It might've taken an extra week to achieve, but the South Hadley Tigers will be one of the high school hockey teams from Western Massachusetts competing in this year's Division 3A tournament, which begins next week.

The Tigers clinched a postseason berth for the second year in a row by dispatching Fay Division rival Chicopee Comp, 5-1, at Fitzpatrick Arena in Holyoke, last Saturday afternoon.

"It did take us an extra week to qualify for the postseason tournament, which I'm not very happy about," said South Hadley head coach Larry Camus. "The pressure is off of us now and we need to continue playing well in our final two regular season games."

The Tigers, who lost to Easthampton in a quarterfinal game a year ago, only held a 2-1 lead against Comp until the final three minutes of the fourth period. That's when they pulled away by scoring three goals.

The victory improved South Hadley's overall season record to 10-7-1 and they had a 5-4 league record.

The Tigers, who had lost their previous two matches, were slated to wrap-up league play against Chicopee on President's Day. They then closed out the regular season by playing a non-league match versus Southwick on Wednesday night.

The Colts (6-11-2, 1-7-1) won't be playing a postseason tournament game for the second consecutive year. They played very well during the first 42 minutes against the Tigers.

"We were able to hang in there against a very good South Hadley squad until the final three minutes," said Comp first-year head coach Brett DiClementi. "My guys played very hard and we were hoping to win another game today. We're a young team and we've come a long way since the start of the year. The future does look very bright for us."

Comp's seniors are: Colby Spear, Johnny Lewis, Josh King, and Tanner Fournier. The foursome took photos with their family members and the coaching staff in a ceremony held prior to the opening faceoff.

"Our four seniors are great kids and they're outstanding team leaders," DiClementi added. "They've worked very hard in every game this season and we're going to really miss them a lot next year."

The only South Hadley senior is Mike Mazza.

Chicopee Comp, along with Chicopee High School and Belchertown, are the only three Division 3A hockey teams in Massachusetts that do not co-op with another high school.

Comp did manage to keep the match scoreless for the first eight minutes of the opening period.

The Tigers, who co-op with Granby High School, broke the ice at the 8:17 mark when a shot attempt by junior Thenis Tsilibocos sailed into the net past freshman goalie Zack Canavan (15 saves), who made his first varsity start. Zack's older brother, Victor, who's a sophomore, is normally the Colts goalie, but he was on a class trip to Spain.

"This wasn't the first time that Zack played in a varsity hockey game, but it was his first start as a goalie," DiClementi said. "Victor is normally our starting goalie, but he's away on a class trip. I thought Zack played a great game today and I'm very proud of him."

The goal by Tsilibocos, which was assisted by junior Ryan Tucker and freshman Nate Loughman, was the only one scored by either team during the first period.

The Colts did have two power-play opportunities during the first five minutes of the second period. They had two shots on goal by sophomore Nick Farrell and another one by sophomore Dylan Seymour, but the score remained 1-0.

The duo of Tsilibocos and Tucker hooked up for South Hadley's second goal, which came at the 6:15 mark. This time, Tucker scored the goal and Tsilibocos was credited with the assist.

South Hadley junior goalie Anthony Cigal (19 saves) shutout bid came to an end with 1:18 left in the second period following a backhanded goal by sophomore Danny Stefanik.

Both King and Farrell were awarded the assists.

"Anthony did bail us out many times in today's game," Camus said. "He only allowed one goal, but made a total of 19 saves."

The Colts had several chances to score the tying goal during the first nine minutes of the third period.

With 2:54 remaining in regulation, junior Matt Brunelle scored an unassisted goal for the Tigers.

A goal by sophomore Joe Meon, which was assisted by Mazza, 35 seconds later gave South Hadley a comfortable 4-1 lead.

Tucker closed out the scoring in the game with his second goal with 1:35 left in the match. It was assisted by sophomore Joe Cigal.

a great opportunity to enhance understanding of the Statewide Tournament Proposal and provide feedback to the TMC. The meetings are open to Superintendents, Principals, Athletic Directors, Coaches, Officials and Media.

The Western Massachusetts meeting will be held on Monday, Feb. 24 at Chicopee Comprehensive High School at 6 p.m.

State tournament information meeting scheduled

REGION — The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) Tournament Management Committee (TMC) has scheduled the regional meetings. These meetings will include an overview presentation of the Statewide Tournament Proposal provided by members of the MIAA TMC, followed by a question-and-answer session.

These informational meetings are

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Athlete of the Week

Nate Breault
GRANBY

Breault scored 16 points for Granby in a big league victory over Ware High School last week.

To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.



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GRANBY BOYS

from page 15

omore and he decided to comeback this year after taking last year off," said Ware head coach Gene Rich. "He has done a lot of positive things for our program this year and we really enjoy having him on our team."

Following the pre-game ceremony honoring Berthiaume, who scored three points, the Rams built a 10-1 lead in the middle of the first quarter.

Sophomore guard Brandon Wishart, who scored a game-high 19 points, made two of his five 3-pointers during that run, which were sandwiched around baskets by sophomore guard's Ryan Gaughan (9 points) and Nate Breault (16 points).

The Indians responded with a 14-5 run of their own.

Sophomore guard Andrew Soltys, who scored a team-leading 16 points, began the second quarter by hitting a 3-pointer from the left corner. He then made a short jumper tying the score at 15-15.

The Rams quickly retook the lead following a lay-up by freshman forward Carter White. He was the third member of his team to reach double figures with 10 points.

"I thought Carter played very well in tonight's game," Sheehan said. "He scored a couple of key baskets and he also had a couple of big defensive rebounds."

With 3:25 remaining in the first half, Wishart, who scored 14 points before half-time, buried a 3-pointer from NBA range capping a 10-2 run, which gave the Rams a 26-17 lead.

The Indians, who trailed by 16 points (36-20) at the start of the second half, managed to close the gap to 36-28 with 3:05 left in the quarter by scoring eight unanswered points.

Junior guard John Soltys (7 points) began the spurt by knocking down a 3-pointer from the left corner. Then junior forward Keith Smith (10 points) followed with an old fashion three-point play and another inside hoop. Smith scored five points in each half.

The Rams entered the final eight minutes



PHOTOS BY JACK CASCIO NEAP.SMUGMUG.COM

Ryan Gaughan tries to come down with the rebound.

of regulation holding a 40-30 lead.

They also held the lead at the start of the fourth quarter in the first meeting, but the Indians made a comeback in that game and came very close to taking the lead.

"I just kept reminding my players to continue playing hard in the final quarter," Sheehan said. "Ware never quits and they just keep coming after you."

The Rams did manage to keep the double digit lead the rest of the way in last Wednesday's contest.

Breault sealed the deal for the visiting team by making three 3-pointers in a row, which increased the lead to 57-36 with 1:51 remaining on the scoreboard clock.

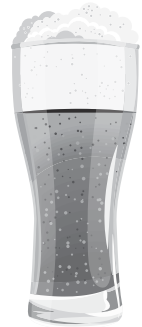
"I was cold offensively until the fourth quarter when I finally made a couple of shots," Breault said. "My 3-pointers put the game away and it feels great to sweep the season series against Ware."

At that point, Rich decided to put his reserve players into the game.

"This is a frustrating and disappointing loss for us," said Rich following the senior night setback. "Granby played very well in tonight's game and they deserve a lot of credit. It's a very good learning experience for my team."

Berthiaume, a guard, did give the home fans something to cheer about when he made a 3-pointer from the left side with less than a minute remaining in the game.

The bus ride home was a very enjoyable one for the Granby players.



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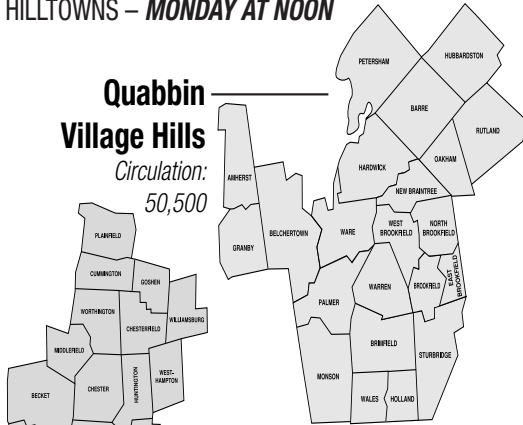
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T-Birds sweep Checkers in weekend series

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Springfield Thunderbirds (28-23-2-0) again erased an early deficit en route to a 4-3 win over the Charlotte Checkers (29-18-4-0) on Sunday afternoon inside the Bojangles’ Coliseum. It was the first weekend sweep for the T-Birds in Charlotte in their history.

For a second straight game, the Checkers power play would draw first blood. This time around, the T-Birds went down two men on back-to-back penalties just 12 seconds apart, and with just seconds remaining on the disadvantage, Gustav Forsling blasted a one-timer from the right point

that squeaked between the legs of Ryan Bednard to give Charlotte a 1-0 lead at 12:48 of the opening frame.

Bednard was otherwise perfect in an opening period onslaught of 15 shots from the Checkers, including five from Forsling alone. Anton Forsberg was not as busy in the Checkers’ goal crease, as he turned away eight shots in the opening period and went almost eight minutes without seeing a shot at the onset of the game.

The Springfield power play, rejuvenated by Rodrigo Abols’ overtime tally the night before, struck on its first chance at

6:35 of the second with former Checker Aleksa Saarela rifling a one-time, cross-box pass from Henrik Borgstrom over the glove of Forsberg to tie the score, 1-1.

Charlotte would vault back to the lead at 11:51 when Dave Gust picked up a puck in the left circle off a shot block and snapping it over the shoulder of Bednard to give the Checkers their second lead, 2-1.

This lead, however, would last but 46 seconds. Borgstrom created an amazing play by throwing a between-the-legs pass through a defender to a cutting Ethan Prow, who backhanded a rising shot into the cage to tie it up again, 2-2, at

12:37.

The 2-2 tie carried into the early stages of the third as Forsberg and Bednard continued to trade strong netminder plays and saves. After Springfield had eight of the first nine shots in the third without a result, the top line finally broke through at 12:42. After Roland McKeown had a puck hop past him at the left point, Saarela and Dryden Hunt set sail for the offensive zone in a 2-on-0. Saarela held onto the puck as long as possible before slipping a pass back to Hunt, who slammed it through the legs of Forsberg to make it 3-2 with 7:18 to play. It was Hunt’s second goal

and third point in two games on the weekend.

Those two would not be finished, though, as Saarela hit Hunt for an empty-net walk-in with 1:20 to play, which would turn out to be the game-winner after Steven Lorentz got Charlotte back to a 4-3 deficit with just 30 seconds remaining.

Bednard improved to 4-1 in his five AHL decisions as a netminder, stopping 33 of 36 for the victory, while Forsberg had 27 saves in defeat.

Springfield continues its push toward the Calder Cup playoffs as they return home for the

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The winner of that contest plays the Eastern Mass. champion in the state finals.

“There are some inequities on how a team currently gets into the tournament,” Brillo said. “There is a seeding inequity and there is a difference in number of games played, especially in Eastern Mass., to get to the state finals.”

Under the new statewide plan, the top 32 teams in each Division will be ranked by Maxpreps and they’ll automatically qualify for the postseason tournament. All of the other teams that finish with a .500 or better record will also qualify for the tournament. The teams will be put in four brackets similar to the NCAA basketball tournament.

The finals of the Western Mass. girls and boys basketball tournaments are currently held at the historic Curry Hicks Cage located on the UMass-Amherst campus. It’s the one place all of the varsity basketball players from Western Mass. dreams about playing a game at that special venue.

“All of our basketball teams have really enjoyed the experience of playing at the Cage in

the past,” said Ware boys varsity basketball coach Gene Rich. “It would be nice if we’re able to keep the Western Mass. tournament. You could play one of your rivals in the tournament. I would hate to break up something that works.”

Rich is also the Principal at Ware High School.

All of the Western Mass. tournaments are run by the PVIAC.

Lou Conte is the PVIAC Executive Secretary and Jeff Boudway is the PVIAC Administrative Assistant.

“The PVIAC has done a great job and it has been commended many times by the MIAA for the way it conducts business in this part of the state,” Rich said. “They do the tournament seedings and make the tournament schedules for each sport.”

The Central Mass. basketball tournament is normally held at the Harrington Auditorium located on the W.P.I. campus in Worcester. A longtime Central Mass. girls varsity basketball coach always says that playing a tournament game at W.P.I. is like going to Disney World for his players.

The Clark Tournament, which is held during the February school

vacation week, is another popular basketball tournament in Central Massachusetts.

All of the high schools will have to insert their win and loss records to Maxpreps in order for the new system to be successful.

The first and second finishers in almost every league also currently qualify for the postseason tournament, but that will no longer take place under the new plan.

Minnechaug Regional High School Athletic Director Michael Roy said he would like to see more clarity on the way Maxpreps will choose rankings.

“They have not really clarified the format Maxpreps will use to judge the games,” said Roy. “That makes it hard to judge this tournament proposal.”

The South Hadley girls basketball team will finish the regular season with a below .500 overall record, but they still clinched a berth in the Western Mass. Division 3 tournament by finishing in second place in the Suburban League.

While Brillo is the Athletic Director of a large high school that currently competes at the Division 1 and 2 levels, Rich coach’s basketball at a smaller

high school that competes at the Division 4 level in most sports.

“It might be a struggle for a smaller high schools like us,” said Rich. “Financially, it could put a little bit of a burden on our athletic budget if we’re forced to travel to Eastern Mass. to play a tournament game. It’s the same problem for every small high school in the state and we’ll just have to think outside the box.”

Agawam High School Athletic Director David Stratton and South Hadley High School Athletic Director Eric Castonguay have both said they are opposed to the proposal. Castonguay believes the proposal only benefits the eastern part of the state. Stratton says the Western Mass. tournament is important to the region.

“Even though the sectional tournament would change the path to a state final to be more equitable,” said Stratton. “I feel the sectional playoff process works.”

No matter the outcome of the vote on Feb. 28, the landscape of high school sports in Western Massachusetts will probably be changing during the next couple of years.

MIAA Bracketology returning soon

REGION – March Madness is coming, and for the second straight year, Turley Sports will bring you “MIAA bracketology.”

In two weeks, in our February 27 and 28 issues of all Turley Publications papers, the sports department will be presenting its picks for the MIAA Western Massachusetts Tournaments. There will be four brackets for boys basketball, and four brackets for girls basketball.

The brackets will detail our picks to make it all the way to our own sectional championships, held right at the famed Curry Hicks Cage on the campus of the University of Massachusetts-Amherst.

Will we be right, or will we be wrong? Who knows. But we sincerely hope our readers enjoy following the progress of the

See **BRACKETS**, page 20 •

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Owen Raines reaches out for a long jump shot.



Ryan Zawistowski makes his way down the court.



Kiernan Corish fakes a pass and gets ready to go for a layup.



Jordan Lanoue makes a free throw.

ORIOLES • from page 15

Duggan returned to the starting line-up and wound up posting a double-double. He scored a career-high 39 points and pulled down 15 rebounds leading the Mustangs to an 83-69 non-league victory over the Orioles at Michael J. Kane Gymnasium last Monday night, Feb.10.

“Colby Duggan is legit,” Stenius said. “He’s the best player that we’ve faced all year and the box score proves that. He scored his points from both inside and outside in tonight’s game. Monson is also the best team that we’ve played this year.”

Duggan made 16 of his 20 field goal attempts, which includes four 3-pointers, against the Orioles. He also made three free throws.

“I didn’t know how well I would play before the start of the game,” Duggan said. “My shots just started to fall and I felt very good out there tonight.”

It was the fifth time that Duggan has scored 30 or more points in a game this season. His previous career-high was 35 points in an 84-62 home win against archrival Palmer on January 20.

Monson head coach Joe Trivisonno was very glad that Duggan, who has scored more than 400 points so far this season, was back on the court again.

“We were very relieved that Colby’s hand wasn’t broken,” Trivisonno said. “He

didn’t look very good at practice yesterday, but he certainly played very well in tonight’s game. I don’t know if there is a better combination of players in Western Mass. than Colby and Logan (Gerry).”

Gerry scored 19 points in the home win versus the Orioles, which pushed the Mustangs overall season record to 13-5. They’ve gone 10-1 since a three-game losing streak at the beginning of January.

“We’re playing very well right now,” Trivisonno added. “Every player has made a contribution during our winning streak.”

Junior guard Danny Fiester just missed reaching double figures in the only meeting of the regular season against the Orioles. He scored seven of his nine points during the first half.

Junior guard Connor Santos chipped in with five points and junior guard Scottie Watson added four points.

Rounding out the scoring column for the home team were junior forward Luke Hedspeth (3 points), senior forward Sam Malo (2 points), and junior forward Gabe Zippin (2 points), who does a lot of the little things that don’t always show up in the box score.

“Gabe is a beast out there,” Trivisonno said. “His energy, strength, and toughness is unmatched by very many players. He’s really coming into his own this year.”

It was the fourth time this season that Monson has scored at least 80 points.

“There were many positives in tonight’s

game, especially offensively,” Trivisonno said. “I didn’t think we defended as well as we have been in our last couple of games.”

While the Mustangs are preparing for the Western Mass. Division 4 tournament, the Orioles (8-10) were hoping to qualify for the Division 2 tournament for the first time in two years. Those dreams came to an end following a 58-34 home loss to Mahar Regional, last Thursday night.

It was the final home game for Belchertown seniors Tyler Grissom, Hunter Klingensmith, and Owen Raines, who scored 10 points against Monson with the help of a pair of 3-pointers.

The last meeting on the hardwood between the Orioles and the Mustangs took place during the 2016-17 regular season. The Mustangs pulled out a 58-46 road victory in that contest.

The Orioles were paced in last week’s road game versus the Mustangs by junior forward Jordan Lanoue, who scored 16 of his team-high 25 points during the first half. Sophomore guard Nate Sajdak finished with 10 points, while junior guard Nate Schiffer scored nine points and junior guard Ryan Zawistowski added six points.

In the middle of the opening quarter, Duggan hit a foul-line jumper giving the Mustangs a 13-7 lead.

The Orioles scored the next six points and tied the score for the only time in the game at 13-13 with 2:24 left in the opening quarter following a made free throw by

Schiffer.

“We fell behind early in the game, but we battled back and tied the score,” Stenius said. “Then they went on another run and we tried to make a comeback, but we could never get over the hump. It was just one of those games.”

The Mustangs responded by scoring the next 14 points. They took a 27-13 lead a minute into the second quarter when Duggan buried a 3-pointer from the top of the key.

Belchertown outscored Monson, 21-17 during the final seven minutes of the first half. The Mustangs held a 44-34 halftime lead.

The Orioles began the second half with a Raines 3-pointer from the left corner and a Lanoue inside hoop closing the gap to 44-39.

The Mustangs would then put-together a 14-5 run, which gave them a 58-44 advantage following a Gerry lay-up with 3:20 left in third quarter.

Monson led by as many as 21 points during the final quarter.

In the middle of the fourth quarter, Gerry tossed the ball off the glass and Duggan dunked it sending the faithful Mustangs supporters into a frenzy.

“Logan and I just looked at each other before that dunk. He threw the ball off the backboard and I dunked it,” Duggan said. “It was a really good feeling.”

BRACKETS • from page 19

Western Mass. tournament, that is one of the most popular tournaments that takes place in the year. Whether it is Division 1 or Division 4, the basketball tournaments

are some of most exciting action of the year.

The brackets we will be presenting in two weeks will reflect simple guesses on the part of Turley Sports with short commentary below each bracket to explain our brackets. We encourage you to compare our

brackets to your own. We hope you enjoy watching the tournament unfold from Feb. 24 when the first round is scheduled to begin, all the way to Curry Hicks Cage on March 7 and 8.

The tournament brackets are scheduled to be released on Saturday, Feb. 22. The

Turley Sports bracketology will be prepared the following day prior to the start of the tournament, and then will available online through our turley.com website and will be published in the papers available Thursday, Feb. 27 and Friday, Feb. 28. Happy tournament to all!

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